

Jordan Times

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Jury finds Hunts liable for \$134m

NEW YORK (AP) — A federal jury Sunday ordered the Hunt brothers to pay about \$134 million in damages to a Peruvian state-owned mining company after ruling that they conspired to fix the price of silver in 1979-80. The ruling came after a six-month trial on a suit filed against three sons of legendary Texas oilman H.L. Hunt by Minpeco S.A., which accused them of conspiring to violate anti-trust laws, commodities trading laws, New York fraud laws and U.S. racketeering laws. Attorneys for Nelson Hunter Hunt, William Herbert Hunt and Lamar Hunt had maintained that their clients were innocent of wrongdoing and that wild fluctuations of silver prices in late 1979 and early 1980 were caused by the world economic climate. The jury deliberated for five-and-a-half days before reaching its decision during an unusual Saturday session. At first it told presiding U.S. district Judge Morris Lasker they had decided the Hunt brothers had conspired illegally to push the price of silver artificially higher but they were unable to reach unanimous agreement on how much the Hunts should pay in damages.

Moscow: ABM talks key to progress

GENEVA (AP) — A U.S.-Soviet review of compliance with a pact limiting missile defenses will strongly influence chances for progress on a superpower treaty slashing long-range nuclear arsenals, a Soviet envoy said Saturday. But the official, Viktor Karpov, indicated the Soviets do not necessarily expect the third regular review of the 1972 anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty, starting next Wednesday in Geneva, to settle differences between the two sides. "The upcoming discussions should not be confrontational," Karpov, who heads the Soviet delegation, told reporters at Geneva airport after arriving from Moscow. "If there are divergences and we cannot overcome them, so they will stay." Karpov said he expects the talks to run 10 days to two weeks. The U.S.-Soviet ABM treaty calls for both sides to review compliance every five years. Karpov said his side "is prepared to discuss" the Krasnoyarsk radar station, which the United States claims violates the pact. Washington says its main objective at the review is to have Moscow agree to dismantle the station, which the White House has threatened to declare a "material breach" of the treaty.

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Haifa blast injures at least 25

HAIFA (AP) — An explosive device went off Saturday night in a shopping area in downtown Haifa, wounding at least 25 people, two of them seriously, police officials said. Twenty-five Arabs were rounded up for questioning, police said. The explosion occurred shortly after 9 p.m. in the cafe Kapotki in the centre of the northern port city, police said. At the time, the area was jammed with people. Israeli city centres are traditionally crowded on Saturday nights as people go window shopping and dine in restaurants to mark the end of the Jewish Sabbath.

Rebels say Ethiopia preparing offensive

KHARTOUM (R) — Ethiopian guerrillas fighting for autonomy in the northern province of Tigray said the government was training 40,000 recruits for combat following a failed offensive against the rebels. The Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) told Reuters in the Sudanese capital Friday the guerrillas had killed or wounded 17,200 Ethiopian soldiers in battles that raged in the province between June and August. "The TPLF expects the army to send reinforcements from 40,000 new recruits under training," said TPLF spokesman Fiseha Afewerki. The TPLF said last week the Ethiopian army units retreated to Inda Selassie town after the battles.

Host states end talks on Palestinians

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees Saturday ended a six-day conference in Damascus and issued a statement denouncing Israel's practices and violations of international law and urging humanitarian organisations to intervene and force the termination of the occupation authorities' oppressive practices. The conference discussed a number of issues, including the Palestinian uprising, and Palestinian affairs in the occupied territories. The conference also reviewed reports and memoranda presented by delegations participating in the conference. Delegations from Jordan, Syria, Palestine, and the Arab League General Secretariat took part in the conference.

Rebels fire 46 rockets at Soviets in Kabul

MOSCOW (R) — Afghan rebels fired 46 rockets at Soviet paratroopers near Kabul airport and a truck packed with explosives blew up in one of the city's main streets, Soviet media reported Saturday. Soviet television, in its main evening news, said rebels opened fire as the troops were marching to lunch. But their commander, Lieutenant-Colonel V. Denisov, said he took quick evasive action and no-one was hurt. "Altogether 46 rockets were fired at the city," a Soviet television correspondent reported from Kabul. Without saying which day the attack occurred, "The rockets were fired from trucks."

Swiss doctor says Mandela responding well

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A Swiss specialist has examined jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, who is suffering from tuberculosis, and says he is responding well to treatment, Cape Town's Tygerberg hospital said Saturday. It said in a statement that Professor Heinrich Hertzog, president of the European Society of Pneumology, had seen Mandela but it did not specify when the examination took place or at whose request. "Mr. Mandela is responding well to our treatment," it said. "He is cheerful and is up and about." The statement said Mandela was diagnosed as suffering from a tubercular pleural effusion Aug. 13 and a lung was drained.

New demonstration reported in Yerevan

MOSCOW (R) — Police Saturday reported a new demonstration in the Armenian capital of Yerevan, scene of protests over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region since February. A police spokesman told Reuters from Yerevan the demonstration took place Friday night. "The city is quiet now," he said. The spokesman declined to give details of the demonstration, which followed protests by hundreds of thousands of Armenians last month before the Kremlin ruled out border changes for Nagorno-Karabakh.

Military sees risk in Marcos return

MANILA (AP) — The military will not oppose any court-ordered return of Ferdinand Marcos but believes there will be security risks if the former president comes home, the Philippines' armed forces chief said Saturday. President Corason Aquino said Friday she would abide by any court order approving her ousted predecessor's return from Hawaii, where he fled after the 1986 uprising against his 20-year administration. On Thursday, an anti-graft court said Marcos — or his attorney — had the right to be present during testimony of a former government minister scheduled to give a deposition against the ousted president in November. "Certainly, there are some security implications that may come about with the return of ex-president Marcos to the Philippines at this time," Renato de Villa, military chief of staff, told reporters. "But as I said, and I wish to stress, a court order must be respected and obeyed by everybody."

Chinese minister holds talks in Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Chi Huai-Yuan and Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan held talks Saturday on implementing the U.N. Security Council ceasefire resolution, a Chinese diplomat said. The diplomat told Reuters the two men exchanged views on the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, which took effect Saturday, and the implementation of other parts of Resolution 598. Chi, who arrived Friday from Tehran, also met Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, the diplomat said. China is a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council. The Iranian news agency IRNA said Thursday that Iran's military chief Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told Chi that China was "one of our real friends."

British envoy 'runs into trouble' in Iran

LONDON (AP) — The first British diplomat sent to Iran for a year has so far not been allowed to visit two Britons jailed without trial, according to government sources. Earlier, the British Broadcasting Corporation reported that the mission by diplomat David Reddaway has "run into trouble." Reddaway, who went to Iran a week ago for a stay of several weeks, is charged with assessing whether Britain should send diplomats back to Iran. He left soon after the Church of England completed talks with an Iranian envoy over the plight of three British hostages held by pro-Iranian extremists in Lebanon, including church envoy Terry Waite.

Palau president dies of gunshot wound

KOROR, Palau (AP) — President Lazarus Salii died Saturday of a gunshot wound to the head that apparently was self-inflicted, the government said. It was the second violent death of a president in this tiny, isolated Western Pacific island chain in three years. Salii, 54, was elected to office in August 1985 following the June 30, 1985, assassination of Haruo Remengesau, Palau's first president. Presidential spokesman Bonifacio Basilus said the country was calm. Vice-President Thomas Remengesau, 57, who also is minister of justice, was sworn in as president Saturday evening. The government said he would fill out the remainder of Salii's term.

Family books withdrawn • New 2-year passport for W. Bankers

New civil status rules announced

By Nermeen Murad and Elia Nasseraliah
Jordan Times Staff Writers

AMMAN — The Jordanian family registration book is emerging as the most important document in determining Jordanian nationality as it was chosen Saturday by the government to be the one document which Jordanians would carry and Palestinian residents of the West Bank would not.

According to a 22-point statement issued by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Saturday, the Civil Status Department and the Department of Passports will stop issuing family registration books to West Bankers. The measure, which took effect Saturday, follows Jordan's decision, announced July 31, 1988, to sever legal and administrative ties with the Israeli-occupied West Bank. "All family registration books issued to West Bank residents will be considered cancelled as of this day," said Saturday's statement, carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra. The books now in circulation will from now be considered only as identification documents, the statement said.

Iran-Iraq ceasefire shakes but takes hold

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The first day of a ceasefire on the Iran-Iraq warfront passed with no reported violations Saturday following nearly eight years of war which cost about one million lives and billions of dollars.

But in the Strait of Hormuz, Iraq claimed an Iranian helicopter gunship and a "war vessel" shadowed an Iraqi merchant ship, one of three sent into the Gulf to test the ceasefire. "The situation is good, progressing. The ceasefire is operational on both sides," said Major-General Slavko Jovic, commander of the U.N. Iran-Iraq Military Observers Group (UNIMOG). He said he has received "no information about violations and everything is going very fine."

However, Iraq complained that Iranian forces harassed a ship it sent into Gulf waters hours after the ceasefire. Iranian helicopters and a warship shadowed the merchant vessel Khawla as it sailed into the Strait of Hormuz from a port outside the Gulf in the United Arab Emirates, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said.

Fresh protests in Gaza; W. Bank schools closed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Fresh violence erupted in the occupied Gaza Strip Saturday hours after the occupation army lifted curfews in seven of the eight refugee camps in the strip and an 85-year-old Palestinian woman suffered multiple fractures after being beaten by Israeli soldiers.

Israeli leftists demonstrated near a desert prison camp to protest the detention of nearly 3,000 Palestinians held without benefit of a trial. The demonstrators released dozens of balloons as a signal of hope to the detainees. About 200 Israelis, including three members of parliament, demonstrated near the Ketziot detention camp in the Naqib desert, said organizer Zahava Galon.

The protesters demanded that the nearly 3,000 Palestinians held for up to six months without charges in so-called "administrative detention" either be put on trial or released. "Anyone who is suspect should be brought to court and in front of a judge," Dedi Zucker, a legislator of the Citizens Right Movement, told the Associated Press in a telephone interview.

About 2,100 "administrative detainees" are held Ketziot, a camp of open-sided tents erected several months after the Dec. 8 start of the uprising. Thousands of Palestinian activists have been arrested in the past eight months. The Israeli demonstrators also demanded improved conditions of imprisonment and called for a commission of inquiry into a prison revolt last week in which two inmates were killed and one wounded.

Ketziot inmates have complained about inhumane conditions, saying they were exposed for many hours a day to the brutal desert sun and not given enough water. The protest, organised by groups opposed to Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, was staged at a gas station about five kilometres from Ketziot after Israeli forces barred protesters from approaching the camp. Demonstrators released about 100 balloons at the gas station. "We wanted the detainees to see that people are demonstrating on their behalf," said Galon.

About a dozen followers of the right-wing Tehiya Party staged a counter demonstration nearby, calling for the imprisonment of all leftists at Ketziot and demanding the expulsion of all "administrative detainees," Galon said. Fresh violence erupted throughout the Gaza Strip Saturday. In Gaza City, protesters blocked main roads with burning tyres and stoned army patrols. In one incident, soldiers chased stone-throwers into Ahli hospital in the city centre and fired in the air inside the hospital compound, a reporter said.

At Shifa hospital in Gaza City, 85-year-old Anna Al Harazin was treated for multiple fractures in the left leg and right foot. Doctors quoted the woman as saying soldiers clubbed her when she tried to stop them from arresting her son during house-to-

brothers in the occupied West Bank.

At the same time, the statement said, Jordan will continue to issue Jordanian passports to Palestinians who want to carry them but the documents will be valid for renewable two-year terms instead of the regular five-year duration.

Regular passports already issued to permanent residents of the West Bank will remain valid until their expiry date but will be renewed only two years, the statement said.

Further explaining the measures, Interior Minister Rajai Dajani told the Jordan Times that there would be no visible difference between the two-year passports and the regular five-year passports issued to Jordanian citizens. "They will look exactly alike except that their respective duration of validity will differ," Dajani said.

The prime minister's statement said the new steps would not apply in the case of citizens carrying the Palestinian reunification (Continued on page 5)

King congratulates Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday evening called Iraqi President Saddam Hussein by telephone and congratulated him on the implementation of the ceasefire in the Gulf war. King Hussein wished the Iraqi people further progress and prosperity.

The ceasefire silenced the guns of war on land. Iranian helicopters and a warship shadowed the merchant vessel Khawla as it sailed into the Strait of Hormuz from a port outside the Gulf in the United Arab Emirates, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said.

It said this was a clear violation of the ceasefire and Baghdad had protested to General Jovic. Iran said its naval patrols intercepted and searched the ship when it entered the strait. Iran's navy commander, Rear Admiral Mohammad Hossein Malekzadegan, said it was allowed to proceed. "This is the normal course of action over the past few years concerning all ships which cross the Strait of Hormuz," said Malekzadegan, quoted by the Iranian news agency IRNA. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, quoted by Iraqi television, told Jovic: "If Iran interferes with (Continued on page 5)



Mohammad Zia Ul Haq

Jordan pays tribute to Zia

ISLAMABAD (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday conveyed to Pakistan's acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan condolences from His Majesty King Hussein and those of the government and people of Jordan on the death of President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, who died in a plane crash Wednesday.

Prince Hassan, who attended the state funeral for the late president, paid tribute to Zia as a man of courage and keenness on serving Islamic and Arab causes who contributed towards strengthening relations between Pakistan and Jordan.

The meeting was attended by members of the Jordanian delegation accompanying Prince Hassan to Islamabad for the funeral.

Prince Hassan later visited the residence of the late president and offered his sympathy to his wife and members of his family.

Prince Hassan earlier laid a wreath on the late president's tomb and recited verses of the Holy Koran. Later he met with a number of heads of delegations attending the funeral.

Qatanani to head Department of Palestinian Affairs

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Saturday endorsed the appointment of Dr. Ahmad Qatanani to the post of director general at the Department of Palestinian Affairs which is affiliated with the Foreign Ministry. The department was created after the Ministry of Occupied Territories was abolished earlier this month. Qatanani served as secretary-general of the ministry before the new appointment. The Cabinet also endorsed Saturday amendments to Sharf's Judges' Law, the certificate equivalence law and the administrative law for the Health Ministry.

PFLP claims attack on Israeli soldiers

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — A Palestinian group said Saturday three of its fighters infiltrated Israel from South Lebanon overnight and killed or wounded several soldiers before being shot dead.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) said the fighters clashed with Israeli troops near the Avivim settlement in northern Israel.

In Tel Aviv, an Israeli army spokeswoman said troops killed three commandos near Maron-Ras in the Israeli-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon when they attempted a raid into Israel.

She said the clash occurred three kilometres from Israel's border and made no mention of any Israeli casualties. "Our heroes fought a fierce battle against Israeli troops who brought tanks and helicopters into the battle," said the PFLP statement issued in the southern port of Sidon. "Our fighters split their blood over the land of occupied Palestine."

Less than 24 hours earlier, three Israeli soldiers were slightly injured by a suicide car bomb attack on an Israeli convoy in the "security zone."

The driver was killed when the Renault car packed with 100 kilograms of explosives blew up just before reaching the Israeli troops.

World bids farewell to Zia

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, killed in a mystery air crash, was given a martyr's burial Saturday in front of presidents, prime ministers and thousands of mourners who hailed him as a man of truth. Afghan guerrillas seated alongside heads of state and dignitaries at the open-air funeral accused the Soviet Union and the Kremlin-backed Afghan government of murdering Washington's staunchest South Asian ally by sabotaging his plane.

"I am certain the (Afghan intelligence service) Khab and the KGB played a role," Burhanuddin Rabbani, leader of the powerful Jamiat-i-Islami rebel group, told reporters. Other guerrilla leaders at the funeral echoed the charge. Afghan officials, strongly opposed to Zia's policy of backing the anti-Soviet guerrillas, deny any involvement. The Soviet Union has made no comment on speculation about the cause of the crash.

Diplomats said U.S. experts sent to probe Wednesday's disaster would look for fragments of explosives in the bodies of some of the 30 people killed to try and determine what device, if any, was used to bring down the plane. Pakistani officials say they suspect the crash that ended 11 years of rule by the 64-year-old career soldier was caused either by a missile or a bomb planted on board.

The diplomats said the search for bomb fragments would be carried out by a six-member team of forensic experts from a U.S. military base in West Germany. Jang, a mass-circulation Urdu-language newspaper, quoted Interior Minister Nasim Ahmad as saying: "The crash of President Zia Ul Haq's aircraft was definitely sabotage, but the investigation is still under way."

Reports of sabotage have appeared in Pakistani newspapers every day since Zia's plane crashed Wednesday, but most were unattributed and gave no details. Zia's flower-decked coffin, draped in the green-and-white Pakistani flag and topped with Zia's general's cap, was brought on a gun carriage to Islamabad's Faisal Mosque as clergymen chanted "There is no God but God."

Mourners lining the route through the Pakistani capital chanted: "As long as there is a sun and moon, Zia, your name will live," and "Man of truth, Zia Ul Haq."

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and the presidents of Bangladesh, India, Iran and Turkey were among foreign dignitaries from 50 countries who sweltered in 35 degree Centigrade (90 degree Fahrenheit) heat.

Their tented enclosure was guarded by machinegun-toting policemen and soldiers who made no attempt to stop journalists roaming among the dignitaries in search of interviews.

There was a commotion as the coffin was shoulder-carried to the graveside by an honour guard. News photographers and cameramen scrambling for clear views of the scene jostled foreign dignitaries in flowing robes from the Middle East and Africa as soldiers tried to clear a space around the grave.

Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, target of an assassination attempt earlier this year, was flanked by three bodyguards as he and other leaders from Islamic countries joined acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan for prayers around the coffin.

A 21-gun salute boomed out as the coffin was lowered into the earth. Mohammad Khan Junejo, whom Zia fired as prime minister in May, picked up a shovel and joined other dignitaries in filling the grave.

The ceremony ended with wreath-laying at the grave by many foreign envoys.

Jordan, Soviet Union set up joint committee

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and the Soviet Union Saturday signed an agreement to establish a joint committee to pave the way for increased bilateral cooperation in economic, scientific and technical fields.

The committee, which will meet twice a year alternatively in Moscow or Amman, can set up sub-committee or work teams to help it carry out its duties. Tabbaa told Petra the accord was an "important step towards building and developing bilateral ties."

PLO leaders meet to prepare for PNC

TUNIS (Agencies) — Palestinian leaders began a meeting in Tunis Saturday which is expected to make arrangements for the Palestine National Council (PNC) to proclaim a Palestinian provisional government in September.

The meeting of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee, chaired by Yasser Arafat, was expected to last two to three days. It will probably decide when and where the 451-member PNC will meet to proclaim a Palestinian provisional government, PLO sources said.

The proclamation would be the PLO's answer to the vacuum left by Jordan's decision last month to sever formal ties with the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

PLO officials say that the provisional administration would also be the logical body to represent the Palestinians at any Middle East peace conference.

Arafat said Aug. 8 that the PNC would meet within a month but PLO sources said the session was more likely to take place a little later, possibly in the third week of September and probably in Algiers.

Algerian President Chadli Benjedid has agreed to host the meeting, while the Tunisian press has said it might take place in Tunis, where the PLO has its headquarters. The speaker of the PNC, Sheikh Abdul Hamid Sayeh, is taking part in the PLO Executive Committee meeting in Tunis, the sources said.

"State by early 1990s"

A senior Arafat aide said Friday that the movement expected Palestinians to have their own state in the occupied territories in the early 1990s.

Hani Al Hassan, Arafat's top political adviser, said on Egyptian state television that the PNC would meet in the second half of September.

Carter-PLO talks



HRH Crown Prince Hassan

Crossing the threshold

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has overseen Jordan's planning programme for 20 years. In an interview with *Middle East Economic Digest (MEED)* in Amman in July, he spoke about the issues now facing the Kingdom.

On decentralisation There has to be an effort made to move people out of high population areas — hence the importance of regional planning. I still feel that greater participation is essential on the part of the local elected bodies. What we are doing is to develop the framework to make quite clear when we go to the region what is available in terms of finance so that they are not let down.

One of my major disappointments in the two decades in which I have been associated with the planning process is the inability to monitor the process in the regions. I hope the government will take the necessary decision on this all-important subject to allocate a decentralised budget more effectively to regional councils and provide the necessary staffing to assist those councils.

On the work of the Higher Council for Science and Technology, which has sponsored the creation of the Jordan Technology Group, a private agency promoting high tech industries. The Higher Council for Science and Technology provides an umbrella for a network of centres of excellence. These will create a threshold of achievement in management such as in the fields of pharmaceuticals or mechanical engineering. In pharmaceuticals, Jordan exporting, with U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) quality controls, to the North American market. On the academic side, there is research in bio-technology which is already gaining international financial support. We feel that there is a technology threshold in this country that needs to be identified in a clear manner. We have recently formed the idea of a search committee, probably internationally managed, to identify the qual-

ifications of Jordanians. On Jordan's regional economic role I feel that the creation of sub-regional economic clubs such as the GCC invites a bilateral dialogue between the manpower exporting countries and the resource-rich countries of the region. If a South Asian or South-East Asian country wishes to enter the region, it is my hope that they could regard Jordan as a maintenance centre, or refurbishment technology centre, as a convenient base. We are interested in dealing not only with megaprojects and large companies, but also with subcontractors who have been affected internationally by the recession and want to be closer to the offset arrangements that are part of the mammoth deals that have been struck by Gulf countries. In the same way we feel we can contribute as a staging post for the EEC with whom we have signed a second co-operation protocol.

On investment procedures I have for years called them the stations of the cross, the Via Dolorosa. I would say that the absence of a one-stop window which shoulders the responsibility of a clearing house for the foreign investor is still a chronic problem. The Jordan Technology Group is to act basically as that one-stop window for technology industries. We hope to invite a counterpart relationship with foreign consultancy in the activities of the group including the incubator science park, and consequently, the science park concept. We will include joint venturing directly with international companies.

The second goal is to create a promotion company. There is no co-ordinating function or what may be described as a standing committee for the Jordanian image abroad. This function is now being studied by the council. My hope is that Jordan can consider developing a mini Arthur Andersen-Price Waterhouse type of activity providing the kind of dynamic exchange required by entrepreneurs and investors.

On food security There has been conspicuous investment in projects to develop vegetables in the Gulf and irrigated agriculture. Consequently, you find a continuous battle at the end of every season in the Jordan Valley to assure ourselves of markets for our farmers. At a time when food security is a chronic problem, solutions cannot be achieved through greater introversion. What we are trying to do in Jordan is to assure ourselves and future generations of the necessary regional allocation of land for agriculture. I think that irrigated agriculture has probably been fully extended with the last extension of the canal.

As far as livestock is concerned in the northern and eastern desert regions, I am very encouraged by the first inter-Arab poultry project in the Azraq area although they face marketing difficulties, despite their inter-Arab board. A great deal of effort has been put into the Hammam sheep project in the northeast. Similar initiatives will provide grazing for sheep. More needs to be done about cattle. We lack the experience, and I hope we can learn from countries that have the experience, such as The Netherlands and Australia. On fisheries, a great deal needs to be done about the uses of sweet water and the dams in the valley area.

There is a new \$60 million centre for agricultural development largely financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development. We say to our major cereal partners such as the U.S. that you have to give such an initiative a chance. We have to make a plea for greater intellectual generosity on the part of our partners in the supply work to give self-reliance a greater chance of becoming a reality. With 150,000 workers from abroad largely in agriculture, I feel that something is tragically wrong. The incentives are obviously not viable for Jordanian farmers. This is something that has to be looked at.

On the signing of treaties of peace between Israel, the Palestinians and their neighbours. The resolution also called on the parties to the conflict to negotiate between themselves in an international conference, that includes representatives designated by the Palestinian people and representatives of the Israeli government, Sa'id said. However, Sa'id was quick to add that although the resolution was passed by the 4,000 delegates of Washington State, "the resolution was not voted on the convention floor for political considerations."

In the last decade the Arab-American involvement in U.S. politics has considerably increased. During the recent run-ups for U.S. presidential nominations, Arab Americans were involved in campaigns for both the Democratic and Republican parties.

Arab Americans become more politically active

On the Democratic front

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The past four years have witnessed a dramatic increase in Arab-American involvement in U.S. politics, said an Arab-American delegate during a recent visit to Jordan.

Dr. Mohammad Sa'id, a delegate to both the 1984 and 1988 Democratic conventions, noted that the 1988 Democratic convention had 55 Arab-American Democrats, an increase of 50 Democrats from 1984.

These delegates were active in bringing the Palestinian issue to the convention floor," said the only Palestinian on the Democratic national platform committee.

A medical doctor living in Washington State, Sa'id said: "The intifada in the occupied territories has had a major impact on Americans. We would not have been able to achieve as much with out it."

He pointed out that while in 1984 the Washington State delegation was barely able to pass a broadly worded human rights resolution on the Middle East, in 1988 a vote on the Arab-Israeli peace resolution passed unanimously.

The resolution, which was drafted by Sa'id, the representatives of the mainstream Jewish community in Washington State and Sarah Kaplan, a member of the Democratic national platform committee, called on the U.S. government to promote a comprehensive negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Arab and Israeli-Palestinian conflicts on the following bases:

— United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. — Mutual recognition of Israel's right to live in peace within safe and internationally recognised borders, and the right of the Palestinians to safety, self-determination and an independent state.

plaining that despite Jackson's adamant stand in favour of the resolution, some of his supporters "threatened to quit" if the resolution was presented.

In order not to create a split among the supporters, a compromise was reached to debate the resolution without a vote. "We (Arab-Americans) knew that the resolution would have been defeated anyway because of the Jewish pressure," he said.

According to Sa'id, several Jewish groups pressured Michael Dukakis not to present the minority plan "which calls for the self-determination of Palestinians."

He added that "Dukakis people" had been instructed to vote against certain amendments and refused to open mindedly listen to new comments. However, having the issue debated was considered a "victory" by Arab-Americans. In addition, having the resolution unanimously passed in Washington State would serve as a model for other states to present resolutions at the legislative level.

"It would be better at the congressional level," said Sa'id, adding that one of Washington State's senators, Brooke Adam, has promised to present the resolution if "Adam can gain the support of another senator."

To Sa'id, both the Democratic and the Republican parties have the same policies when it comes to Middle East policies. "Both are influenced by the Jewish community and both fully support Israel," he said.

Sa'id believes when the Jewish community changes American foreign policy will change. "This change is taking place in the Jewish communities, thanks to the intifada," he said.

In addition to drafting the resolution with Kaplan, Sa'id has worked with the new Jewish Agenda, a group of Jewish activists calling for a state solution, and has recently established the Arab Gentile Agenda (AJGA), the Arabic word for "has arrived". "We must work with Jews who have similar views," he said.

Arab-American groups such as the Arab-American Institute, the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee and the Arab-American University Graduates are coordinating their efforts. "It is important for us to work under one umbrella," said Sa'id.

On the Republican side

NEW ORLEANS — Arab American Republicans gathered in New Orleans as delegates met for the Republican National Convention, August 15-18.

The Arab American Republican Federation hosted a gala reception at the Marriott Hotel Monday evening, Aug. 15.

Arab American Republicans have established a strong network of support for the Bush campaign. In 1984, Arab Americans ranked first in involvement among the 42 ethnic group committees registered with the Reagan-Bush campaign — producing a national network of over 6,000 contributors and volunteers for the campaign. This year, former Oregon Governor Victor Atiyeh has been actively involved in developing Arab American backing for the Bush candidacy.

Arab Americans competed for delegate slots in more than ten states, while also working to generate support for the Bush candidacy in their local communities.

Attending the convention as delegates were Norman Murdock, Commissioner of Hamilton County, Ohio and Raymond Howar, a Washington, DC, businessman. Norman Murdock is a practicing attorney and certified public accountant. Long ac-

tive in his community, Murdock has served as Commissioner of Hamilton County since 1979, following 12 years in the Ohio House of Representatives. In 1980 he co-chaired the Ohio Reagan-Bush campaign committee.

Howar, the son of Palestinians who emigrated to the United States after the turn of the century, is a real estate developer and vice chair of the District of Columbia Republican Central Committee. While Howar is a strong supporter of presidential candidate George Bush, he is critical of the Reagan Administration's handling of Middle East policy and advocates a more even-handed stance for the U.S. in the region.

Another prominent Arab American who travelled to Atlanta is George Salem, the U.S. Solicitor of Labour. Salem, a board member of the Arab American Institute, is the highest ranking Palestinian American in the Reagan administration.

Vocal in his support for Bush, Salem states that the current vice president would bring with him to office "a perspective of fairness, developed through his years of service in public policy positions, including his service as a Congressman, and later as the United States' first ambassador to China."

He is the most qualified person for president in this country." He points out that Bush has travelled extensively in the Middle East and has good personal relations with many government leaders in the region.

Salem also has words of praise for his own community: "Arab Americans are openly and visibly participating in the political process this year as never before. This is the next phase in the maturation of the community vis-a-vis its involvement in the political process. In 1984 we saw the first organised Arab American presence in U.S. campaign history. Now, we see Arab Americans participating as delegates and hosting their own gala convention at the Republican convention."

A number of other Arab Americans who have worked actively in support of the Bush campaign also attended the convention as observers. They included Virginia businessman Fuad Sabouni, regional campaign coordinator Bill Grunselmaa, NAAA chapter executive director George Aldridge, and Houston physician Adeb Mikhail, all from Texas; campaign volunteer Suzanne Sareini of Michigan; and Republican party district leader Michele Forzley of New York.



Democratic congressman Jim Wright addresses one of the Arab American gatherings in Washington (File photo)

JORDANTIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
16:00 Koran
16:25 Cartoons and children programmes
17:00 Sports
17:30 News summary in Arabic
18:00 Local programme
18:05 The world of prairies
18:25 Series: ALF
19:10 Local programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:40 Arabic series
21:35 Local programme
22:10 Varieties programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Varieties programme (cont.)

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 La Chanson des Chansons
18:30 Rue Carnot
19:00 News in French
19:15 Un DB De Plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arc You Being Served
21:10 Documentary: "Footsteps"
22:00 News in English
22:30 Magnum
23:10 Family Towers

RADIO JORDAN
835 KHz AM & 90 MHz FM
& partly on 95.40 KHz SW
Tel: 77111-19

07:00 Morning Show
07:30 News Summary
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
11:05 In Concert
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Science Report
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Lustrous Choice
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Rhythm and Blues
19:00 News Summary
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show continued
21:55 News Summary

WORLDNET

(At the American Cultural Centre)
08:00 America Today
12:00 Hour USA
13:00 America Today
14:00 The Forum Presents
14:30 Adam Smith's Money World
15:00 World Dialogue: Reform and Improvement in American Education
16:00 Worldnet Dialogue: Use and Distribution of Drugs
17:00 Satellite File No. 269 (English)
Satellite File No. 269 (French)

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 English Songs
07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial Review 08:00 World News 08:05 Twenty-Fours News: News Summary
08:30 Personal View 08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Meridian 10:00 News 10:05 Twenty-Fours News: News Summary 10:30 From the Weeklies 10:45 Network UK 11:00 World News 11:05 Reflections 11:15 A Jolly Good Show 12:00 World News 12:05 British Press Review 12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 12:45 Personal View 13:00 News Summary followed by Her's Humphs 13:15 Letter from America 13:30 Feature 14:00 World News 14:05 News about Britain 14:15 The A-Z of World News 20:05 Meridian 15:00 Radio Newsweek 15:15 Multitask 3 15:45 Sports Roundup 16:00 World News 16:05 Twenty-Fours News: News Summary 16:30 From the Weeklies 16:45 Sports World 16:50 News Summary 17:00 World News 17:05 Network UK 17:45 Sports World 18:15 Sports World 18:30 Feature 18:40 News about Britain 18:45 Sports World 18:50 World News 19:00 World News 19:05 Sports World 19:10 World News 19:15 Sports World 19:20 World News 19:25 Sports World 19:30 World News 19:35 Sports World 19:40 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CPF opens new centre in Salt

SALT (J.T.) — The Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF) will celebrate the opening of a new centre Sunday under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The new centre, located within the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) complex in Salt, will be the fifth of its kind in the Kingdom, according to a report in the Al Dustour Arabic daily.

Last May, CPF President Fakhri Bilbeisi said the new centre in Salt will offer services to disease sufferers in some 160 local families.

CPF intends to open a similar centre in Karak and is planning to set up two additional centres at Tafleh and Maan, Bilbeisi said in his May statement.

In cooperation with the Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped, the CPF will start a mobile service with specialists touring rural regions of the Kingdom conducting examinations and diagnosing cases, Bilbeisi noted.



HM Queen Noor

He said work on a national integrated centre for examining children exposed to handicaps and diagnosing their cases would start before the end of 1988.

The CPF, which was established in 1977, requires at least JD 150,000 annually to cover its expenses at the present level, according to Bilbeisi.

He said in 1987 CPF offered services to more than 1,000 children, and carried out 40 surgical operations.

Despite new rules, physicians' salaries won't be reduced

AMMAN (J.T.) — Physicians and specialists employed by the Ministry of Health will continue to receive their extra allowances for overtime work and will not be affected by a recent government order to unify allowances for all employees in the country, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh announced Saturday.

Hamzeh said that upon a decision from Prime Minister Zaid Rifai doctors will continue to receive their normal allowances for overtime work at hospitals and health centres.

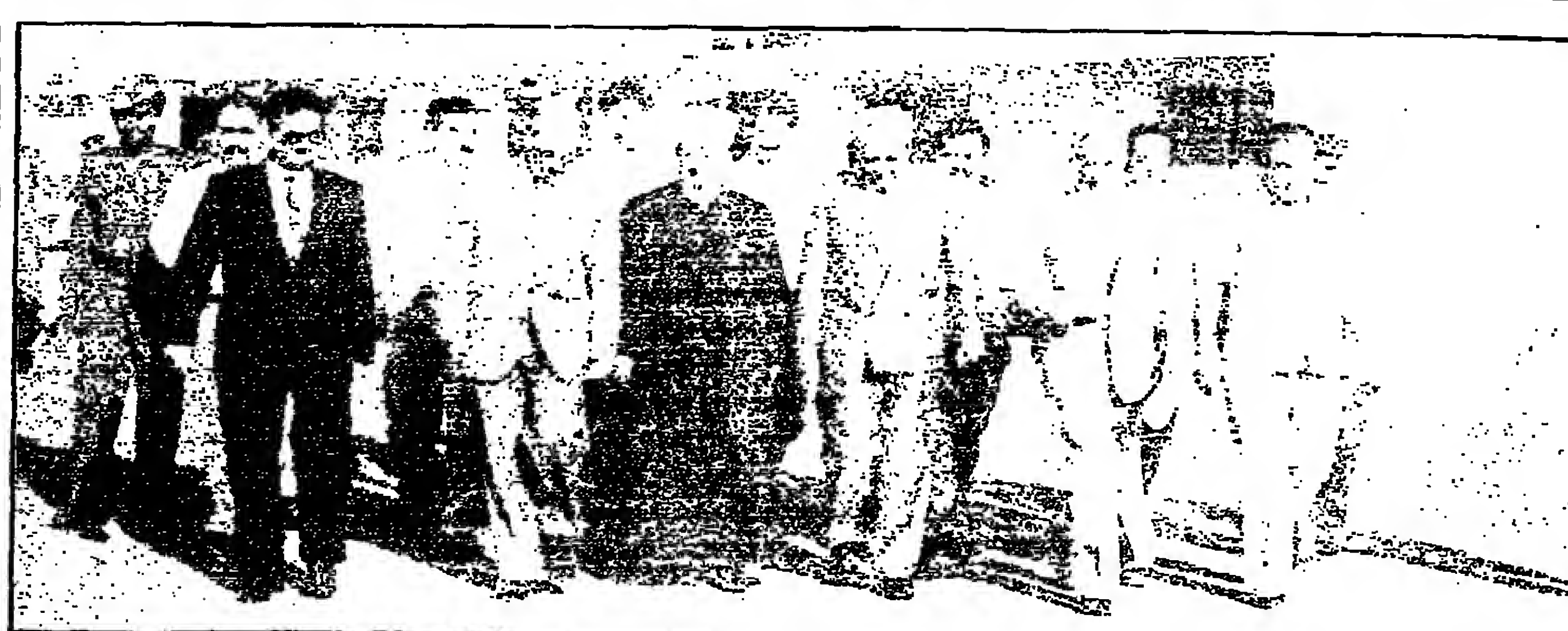
The Council of Ministers recently issued instructions for the unification of allowances which would reduce the income of many doctors, engineers and other professionals employed by government departments.

Professional unions were earlier reported by the local press to be discussing the issue.

The Jordanian Medical Association (JMA) on Friday sent a cable to the prime minister urging him to halt the application of the new regulations.

Dr. Hamzeh said in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that doctors currently employed by the ministry, estimated at 500 will not be affected by the government decision concerning the reduction of allowances, but newly appointed doctors were said to be subject to the reduction.

Doctors already employed by the Ministry of Health currently receive allowances on their overall salary. The newly-appointed physicians will receive only a 30 per cent allowance on their basic salary.



Minister of Awqaf Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat (centre), Minister of Energy Hisham Al Khalil (left) and Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh (right) at Marka airport to supervise the first shipment of relief aid to the Sudan that left Saturday (Petra photo)

Prince Hassan pays expenses

Jordan sends first relief shipment to the Sudan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Saturday sent its first shipment of relief supplies to flood-ravaged areas of Sudan. An official statement said the supplies were paid for by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, chairman of the Jordanian National Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People.

The committee rapporteur Abdul Sakam Abbadi, who made the statement, said that upon making the contribution Prince Hassan urged the committee to organise an intensive campaign to raise contributions for the Sudanese people.

Financial and in kind contributions by Jordanians will be channelled to Sudan immediately, Abbadi said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

He said the first shipment was sent aboard a special aircraft which also carried a team of doctors and medical supplies.

Abbadi appealed to the Jordanian citizens to extend all possible help to the Sudanese people.

Abbadi earlier made appeal to the public to extend financial and in kind assistance to the Sudanese people.

He said contributions are being collected from private individuals, companies, factories and various other organisations in the Kingdom to be sent to Sudan where at least 1.5 million people

have been displaced as a result of floods.

Abbadi, who is also secretary general of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, said many people in the flooded areas of Sudan were exposed to epidemics and dangerous diseases, and there was urgent need for medical and food supplies, tents, blankets, clothes, electric generators and water pumps.

U.N. officials in Khartoum predicted that thousands of children would die in the next few weeks from diseases such as cholera, typhoid and dysentery.

They said the death toll would be much higher than the normal rate of 180,000 deaths per year before the age of five.

The national committee is making preparations to dispatch additional shipments of relief supplies aboard a special aircraft in the coming few days, Abbadi noted. He said Jordan will also send a special rescue team to help the local teams in the flooded regions of Sudan.

The national committee was formed in Jordan in 1985 following a visit to Sudan by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan who had inspected drought and famine stricken areas.

The committee, which is composed of 20 members including ministers and prominent public figures, has been entrusted with the task of raising contributions for the Sudanese people and supervising the execution of development projects, Abbadi noted.

The first shipment of Jordanian relief supplies sent to Sudan was accompanied by a team of doctors and nurses who immediately

embarked upon providing medical services, Abbadi noted.

Other Jordanian teams, including technicians and engineers, were sent to Sudan continuously to help set up a local hospital, Kassa and to lay the groundwork for water and electricity networks, Abbadi added.

He said upon directives from His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, a Jordanian agricultural team visited Sudan recently and agreed with Sudan officials on setting up an advanced drip irrigation system in Sudan to help develop its agricultural production.

Traffic increases along Aqaba Nweibeh route

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of passengers travelling along the Aqaba Nweibeh route last month increased by 11 per cent over that the same month in 1987, according to Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan.

The company transported 84,640 passengers in 9,470 vehicles along that route in July 1988, the minister said at a meeting with senior officials in charge of

the Arab Maritime Bridge Company which has members from Jordan, Egypt and Iraq.

The minister said the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications will offer all possible facilities to enable the company to boost its operations.

The minister also discussed with company officials the question of transporting Iraqi citizens to Egypt aboard ferry boats, linking the Aqaba Nweibeh route

TCC disconnects defaulters' telephones

AMMAN (Petra) — The Telecommunication Corporation (TCC) announced Saturday that it had disconnected the telephones of 8,766 subscribers in the Amman area due to their failure to pay dues in the first four months of 1988 and the previous year.

The announcement was made by Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan, the TCC board chairman.

He said the TCC was forced to take this action following repeated announcement in the local press urging subscribers to pay

their dues.

The total amount required from those failing to pay their bills, he said, amounted to JD 2 million.

The minister said the TCC has the right to disconnect any telephone after a lapse of 15 days following the first warning, but, it prefers to publish warnings in the local press and send reminders to subscribers before taking any action, he added.

The minister urged all 132,500 subscribers in the Amman region to pay their bills on time to avoid the inconvenience of disconnection.

Pharmacists hold scientific day Monday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JPA) will organise a "Scientific Day" on the effects of dangerous drugs Monday to help promote public awareness, according to JPA President Tayseer Himsi.

Himsi told a press conference that drugs and their negative

effects on the mind will be discussed by a number of speakers at Monday's event.

In addition, the speakers will discuss inter-Arab cooperation in stopping drug trafficking and dealing with drug abuse, according to Himsi.

Study: Amman traffic congestion occurs mainly during rush hours

AMMAN (Petra) — A study conducted by the Ministry of Public Works and Housing on the interchange in the Interior Ministry District of Amman found that congestion along the interchange routes occurs mainly during morning and evening rush hours, according to Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaidah.

The minister said the study entailed among other things, installing electronic devices to count the number of vehicles passing in all directions at the interchange.

The study found that congestion along the interchange routes results from lack of sufficient

room for cars to move from Al Abdali district towards the Sports City area and the lack of side roads near the roundabout, according to the minister.

He said the study recommends that a three-stage plan be carried out to facilitate the flow of traffic within the interchange zone.

This plan calls for setting up four junctions with traffic lights to direct traffic to the desired routes, the minister said.

He said the plan provides for new directives to encourage traffic, to make better use of the overpass and to direct vehicles in larger numbers towards a side road leading from Sports City to Abdali.

Detroit orchestra to perform in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein, the National Music Conservatory of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation presents the Detroit Chamber Players in concert. The concert will take place at the Seven Hills — Amman National Park on Wednesday, 31 August 1988 at 8:00 p.m. Dinner will be served after the concert.

The performers, eleven in number, are distinguished members of the renowned Detroit Symphony Orchestra. They will perform an enjoyable programme by music masters, such as: Donizetti, Mozart, Borodin,

C.P.E. Bach and others.

The objective behind inviting these selected players is to provide music lovers, and local amateur and professional musicians with a skillful and artful performance by first class international musicians. The instruments involved in this performance will be: Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Violin, Viola, Cello and Piano.

To give the concert at the Seven Hills will put the audience in a milieu similar to the one that was prevalent when the pieces of the programme were performed for the first time.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TURKISH MESSAGE: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received a cable of good wishes from Turkish President Kenan Evren, who was flying through Jordanian airspace on his way home from Pakistan after attending the funeral of President Zia Ul Haq. The message wished His Majesty good health and the people of Jordan further progress and prosperity.

U.S. AID: The Council of Ministers Saturday approved a draft agreement under which the U.S. Agency for International Development will grant Jordan a \$3.5 million to help Jordan finance efforts to promote the marketing of its agricultural products.

PHOSPHATE TRANSPORTATION: The Jordan-Iraq Land Transport Company has assigned 40 trucks to transport phosphate from Al Abiad and Al Hasa mines to Aqaba. The measure is designed to help the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company to honour its commitments to foreign markets.

CEASEFIRE CELEBRATION: The Iraqi community in Jordan Saturday celebrated the ceasefire in the Gulf war. The celebration, held at the Iraqi embassy, was addressed by the Iraqi ambassador Ghafel Jassem Hussein and prominent Iraqi community figures.

QUARANTINE: The agricultural department in Mafrag has embarked on the second phase of a quarantine project which will cost JD 60,000. The project, to be set up at Mahanat Um Surra, will offer veterinary services to domestic animals imported from neighbouring countries.

BAD FOOD: The Zarqa Municipality has destroyed three tonnes of foodstuff and canned food found to be unfit for human consumption. Municipality officials said that the bad food was confiscated by health teams touring restaurants, food shops and cafes.

NUCLEAR CONFERENCE: A conference of the Arab Nuclear Energy Council (ANEC), at ministerial level, Friday concluded a two-day meetings in Tunis, during which Dr. Ali Attijl Abdullah of Iraq was appointed director general of the council and Tunis was chosen as its headquarters. Dr. Ibrahim Badran of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources represented Jordan in the meetings.

CITIZENS VS. AMMAN: A report released by the legal department at the Greater Amman Municipality says that a total of seven court cases were filed against the municipality in July. The paper says the total number of court cases to which the municipality is party was 248, 198 filed against it and 139 on its behalf.

American Centre hosts debate on U.S. elections

AMMAN (J.T.) — The American Cultural Centre will receive a special broadcast of a call-in television conference on the Republican National Convention, Monday at 4 p.m.

The programme, being broadcast from Washington D.C., over the Worldnet television system, will feature a roundtable discussion and analysis of the Republican convention. Viewers in Jordan and other countries may call the Washington studio during the programme with questions and remarks for panel members. The American Centre will have a telephone line available for this purpose.

The programme host will be

Paul Duke, a noted political commentator and host of the weekly news programme "Washington in Review". Other panel members will be Eleanor Clift, a congressional and political correspondent for Newsweek; Dr. Donald Devine, former director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and President Reagan's former chief advisor on federal personnel matters; and Andrew Cassels, bureau chief of the Washington news bureau of Cox Communications.

The American Centre in Amman welcomes all interested in the U.S. presidential elections to attend.

WHAT'S GOING ON

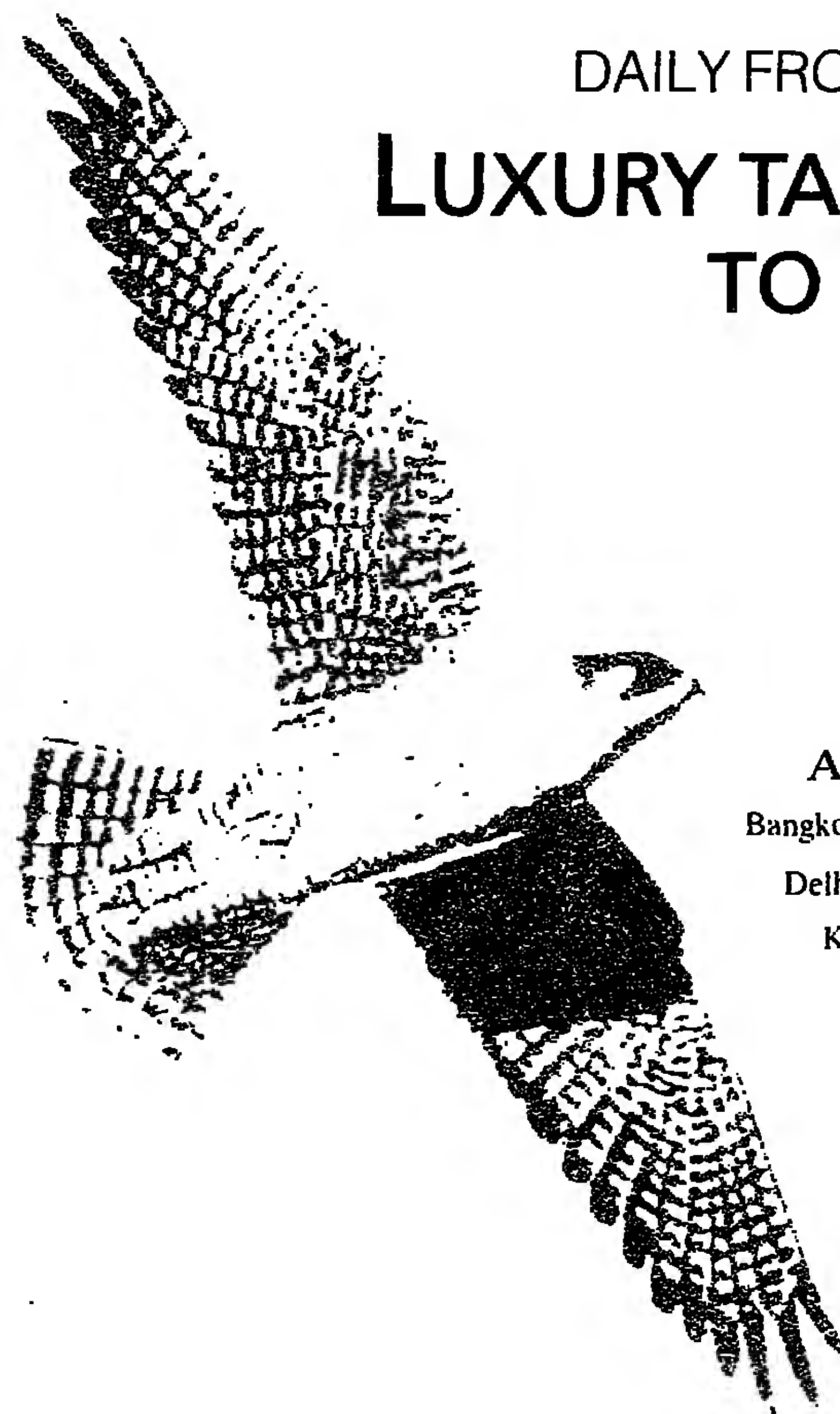
FILMS

* Feature film: "The Verdict," The American Centre at 7:00 p.m.

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Mend your fences

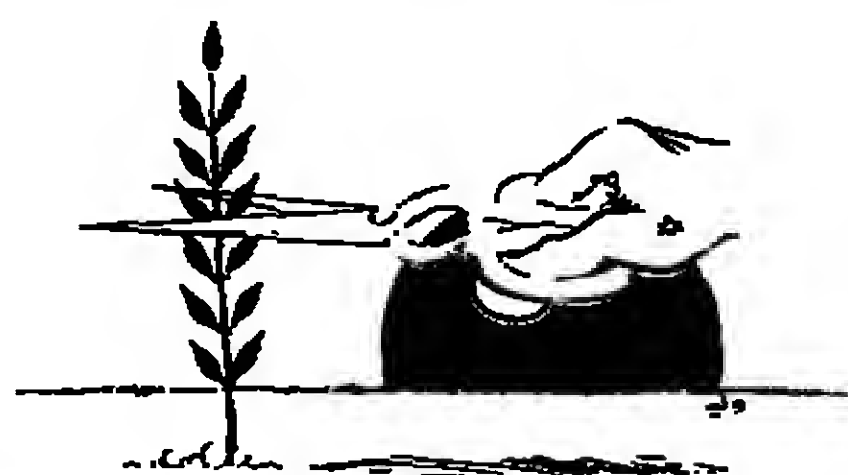
D-DAY between Iran and Iraq took effect on August 20, and is off to a good start. Both sides in the Gulf war appear set to exercise sufficient political will and military restraint to make the ceasefire between them hold, in prelude to the impending negotiations scheduled to begin in Geneva on Aug. 25. What remains to be gauged is Iran's good will to match its political will in ending the eight years of war and resolving its aftereffects. Iraq's insistence on direct talks with Iran under U.N. auspices can be seen only in light of Iraq's desire to directly measure Iran's national psychology and long-range intentions towards it and the other countries in the Gulf and the Middle East. The fact that Iran has grudgingly accepted Iraq's call for direct talks under the U.N. umbrella can be seen also as a preliminary signal that Iran's leaders have finally accepted reality, albeit after a million casualties and a price tag of hundreds of billions of dollars.

Nevertheless, the time is now ripe for turning a new page in Iranian-Arab relations, and giving such an effort every chance to succeed. The negotiations between the two warring countries must not, therefore, be spent on incrimination or intimidation. To quote Winston Churchill in such a context: "In war: Resolution. In victory: Magnanimity. In peace: Good will." All of us in the Middle East, as indeed elsewhere in the world, pray for a speedy resolution of the Gulf war and all its consequences. We want Iran and Iraq to mend their fences, physically and figuratively, so that they could play their positive natural role in the future of the Middle East. For too long, they have been missing links in a Middle Eastern puzzle that awaits resolution.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Prove credibility

THE United States criticised Israel for deporting 25 Palestinians from their homeland and the European Community (EC) delegate in Tel Aviv lodged formal protest with the Israeli government against this arbitrary action. The whole Western bloc has thus voiced its dissatisfaction and condemnation of the Israeli action, and Israel's continued practices aimed to stem the Palestinian uprising. But, Israel so far has showed no sign that it will stop deporting the Palestinian citizens or end its ill-economic and political practices against the oppressed Palestinians. In view of this situation, the U.S. is called on to prove its credibility by making it clear to Israel that Washington would no more provide the Jewish state with the protection of the veto at the U.N. Security Council if such actions continued. The EC countries can and ought to impose economic sanctions on Israel if the latter continued its present policies, otherwise the Jewish state is bound to pursue its atrocities in the occupied territories. We also believe Egypt can exercise pressure on Israel in view of the Israeli-Egyptian ties and make it clear that such policies would have very serious consequences on bilateral relations. We do hope that proper measures will be taken by these parties vis-a-vis Israel's actions; but we also hope the Palestinian uprising will continue regardless of the policy of deportation and Israel's inhuman and barbaric actions.



Waleed — Al Dustour

Al Dustour: A new chapter

THE Iran-Iraq war comes to an end officially Saturday amid hopes that the two neighbours will open a new chapter in their relations marked by peaceful coexistence and full of hopes for progress and prosperity for all people in the Gulf region. The past eight years were wasted and huge Arab and Muslim nations' potentials were lost in vain, weakening the Arab and Muslim world's status among nations and exposing the Arab region to grave dangers. Most importantly, this long war enabled the Israelis to expand at the expense of the Arabs, and to pursue their repressive measures against the Palestinian people. The end of the Gulf war brings a new hope for peace and stability to the Arabs and Muslims, and paves the way for fruitful cooperation between all neighbours in the Gulf. The new era of peace ushers in further reconstruction, development and prosperity for the Arabs, who will now spend more on economic and social projects than on armament. But, many of our hopes continue to hinge on the genuine intentions of Iran, because any violation of the ceasefire on its part is bound to trigger new outbreaks of hostility with Iraq. We hope Iran is totally convinced of the benefits of peace and will seek to enhance it in the Gulf region.

Sawt Al Shaab: The first step

ALL peace-loving nations will consider the ceasefire in the Gulf, which started Saturday, as the first step leading to peace between Iran and Iraq, following eight years of conflict that left behind a trail of devastation, and caused severe harm to the interests of the Arab and Islamic nations. The ceasefire crowns U.N. efforts and opens the way for a new chapter of cooperation among Gulf states for prosperity and development. Iran has finally responded to calls for peace after discovering that war can achieve nothing. The coming days will carry with them a new image of co-existence between Iran and its Arab neighbours and will open the door for serious and meaningful talks in Geneva for a lasting and comprehensive peace between the two warring nations. Jordan, which supported Iraq against aggression is happy to see the fighting end, and the Arab countries are overjoyed by the existence of peace, promising further development and prosperity for all.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Potash project gains new momentum

UNTIL RECENTLY the Arab Potash Company was high on the list of troubled large-scale projects. Now, out of financial and technical trouble, it is a large-scale economic project with great potential for more growth.

The paid up capital of the company is JD 72 million, of which 56 per cent is held by the government of Jordan, while the balance is represented by Arab equity. The company carries loans on its books totaling JD 70 million. Thus, the overall invested capital in the company is on the order of JD 140 million (\$400 million).

The company was able to make some major accomplishments. It dealt successfully with technical problems, bottlenecks and the problems of teething. It was able to utilise 100 per cent of its designed productive capacity, or 1.2 million tonnes, during 1987. The management committed itself to 1.3 million tonnes of potash in 1988, which increased to 1.35 million in 1989. After that, certain modifications and additions will take place to raise production capacity to 1.7 million tonnes a year by 1992. In the last stage, the project will be upgraded to 2.2 million tonnes a year.

The price of potash on the world market has recently benefited the company. The price was rising at an average rate of 2.5 per cent a month since the beginning of 1987. The current price is \$81 per tonne against \$60 two years ago, and compared with \$140 as was projected by the feasibility study. The total cost of producing a tonne of potash on board the ship in Aqaba, including interest and depreciation, is around \$75 per tonne.

The company sustained a net loss of JD 3.8 million (\$10 million) in 1987 but will make JD 3.8 million in 1988, a turn around of JD 7.6 million. The company will thus take its place as a profitable company despite the heavy burdens of interest and depreciation which make around 50 per cent of the total cost.

The Arab Potash Company provides employment to 1,355 workers and staff of which 96 per cent are Jordanian, including 109 engineers. A good portion of the employees come from the local area.

Jordan enjoys a definite comparative advantage in mining potash and other natural resources. However, the factory was not competitive at the beginning. In order to match the market prices it was

losing money. Now, the factory has gained competitiveness and has become able to make money while expanding its market share in a highly competitive market.

The Jordanian Potash Project enjoys several economic advantages. First, it depends on an undepletable source of raw material. Dead Sea water, while the competing projects elsewhere have to dig 1000 metres deep to mine solid potash. Second, the site is relatively close to the export port of Aqaba while most other mines are much further from the nearest port. Third, Jordan has a transport advantage in the markets of Middle East and Far East compared to distant competitors. Fourth, the productivity of Jordanian labour is higher than average. Finally, the company is exempted from income tax and customs fees unlike international competitors.

On the liability side, we find an adjacent project on the Israeli side of the Dead Sea. Second, experience and know-how are lacking in the technology of extracting potash from water, leaving the company to experiment and learn the hard way, not drawing on advanced world experience. Third, the overdesign in the administrative offices on the site, the luxurious housing village and the unnecessary administrative building in Amman placed heavy burdens on the company. Finally, the most important difficulty which faced the infant industry was the drop of potash prices on the international markets to almost half the price level estimated by the economic feasibility study.

The management was able to maximise the advantages and strong points, and overcome or contain the disadvantages and weak points.

We have to point out the exceptionally high value added in the potash project, which is in excess of 70 per cent of the gross output, against 55 per cent in the Jordanian extracting industry in general, and 30 per cent in the manufacturing sector. In fact, the company hardly needs any imported inputs except for energy, spares, and other minor materials.

It is now established that the Potash Company is quite feasible. It not only provides highly skilled jobs, it earns badly needed foreign exchange of no less than \$100 million a year.

A confident Iraq faces new challenges at home

By Alistair Lyon
Reuters

Baghdad — "Hail to the victorious leader, architect of peace", reads a banner above one of the giant portraits of President Saddam Hussein smiling from public building and junctions in Baghdad.

With a ceasefire to end the eight-year Iran-Iraq war formally announced at 0300 GMT on Saturday, the Iraqi leader is emerging stronger than ever, diplomats say.

Hussein, personally identified with the conflict that has cost up to a million lives, is taking credit for battlefield victories that preceded and followed Iran's July 18 acceptance of a U.N.-mediated ceasefire.

"In the sense that it was Saddam's war and Iraq came out of it rather well, he is stronger," one Western diplomat said. "He is tough, mature, pragmatic and brooks no opposition. The Arabs respect and fear him even if they don't love him."

Iraq has an estimated one million men under arms, the biggest standing army in the Arab World. Military sources say its combat-tested forces have shown an ability this year to strike effectively at their Iranian foes almost at will.

Iraq is also sitting on some of the world's biggest oilfields. It claims proven reserves of 100 billion barrels and a production capacity of four million barrels per day (bpd).

By next year a new pipeline across Saudi Arabia will boost

export capacity to 3.35 million bpd and repair of bomb-damaged Gulf terminals could add another two million bpd, oil experts say.

No choice yet

Baghdad has not revealed

"Iraq has an estimated one million men under arms, the biggest standing army in the Arab World. Military sources say its combat-tested forces have shown an ability this year to strike effectively at their Iranian foes almost at will."

whether its post-war strategy will be to turn up the oil taps to boost revenue or cooperate within OPEC to hold down production in a bid to keep up prices.

Either way, Iraqi officials believe their country will become a major economic, political and military force in regional Arab politics once the war is over.

Iraqi leaders and state-run media have already resumed vitriolic attacks on the rival Baathist government in Syria, the main ally of non-Arab Iran during the war.

"The re-emergence of Iraq as an important central power in Arab politics will be a big blow to Syria," Nizar Hamdoun, foreign ministry under-secretary, told Reuters this week.

Nonetheless, Iraq will face formidable problems as it turns its focus from battlefield to factory.

It is heavily in debt to its trading partners and Arab allies. War damage to its oil facilities in

the Gulf and the southern port of Basra run into billions of dollars.

Iraqi forces are still struggling to crush Iranian-backed Kurdish guerrillas in their northern mountain strongholds. Even if the ceasefire holds and Geneva peace talks proceed as planned from

"Until this year's Iraqi victories, it was as if the whole country had been under siege for six years," a military source said. "Finally they began using effectively their overwhelming superiority in tanks, artillery, aircraft and chemical weapons."

Iraqi officials say the Geneva talks should tackle not only implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, but eventually lead to a full peace treaty.

"We want a permanent peace," Hamdoun said. "Japanese and Western companies will not be served by a temporary peace or truce."

"They will not dare to go for big projects in Iraq or Iraq if the threat remains of another round of hostilities."

The war has drained Iraqi coffers. European embassies estimate Iraqi debt at \$60 billion, including \$30 to 35 billion owed to Gulf Arab countries, mainly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, which have long helped finance Iraq's war effort.

"It is generally assumed the Iraqis won't pay back the Arab debt in full. They regard it as their due for defending the Arab homeland. The Saudis and Kuwaitis will probably have no choice but to see it that way too," one diplomat said.

"The Iraqis will do their best to massage repayments to other creditors," he added. "They will demand new loans to get the economy back on its feet and tempt creditors to agree to reschedule again by dangling fat contracts in front of them."

Joyous outburst

"Until last month, it was very hard to buy new tyres in Baghdad," one Iraqi said. "Imports were curbed and locally-produced tyres were going mostly to the military."

Iraqis greeted news of the U.N. ceasefire with a spontaneous outburst of joy, though wild shooting in the air filled hospitals with dead and wounded and smashed hundreds of car windshields.

Civilian takes power in Burma

By Denis D. Gray
The Associated Press

BANGKOK — Maung Maung, a U.S.-educated lawyer and Burma's first civilian leader in 26 years, is widely regarded by analysts as lacking real power but a figurehead who could quell violent, anti-government protest.

Maung Maung, recently named the country's attorney-general, was elected chairman of the ruling political party, Burma's most powerful post, on Friday.

The previous chairman, Sein Lwin, was ousted Aug. 12 after 17 days of student-led protests demanding both his removal and the restoration of Democracy and a multi-party system in Burma.

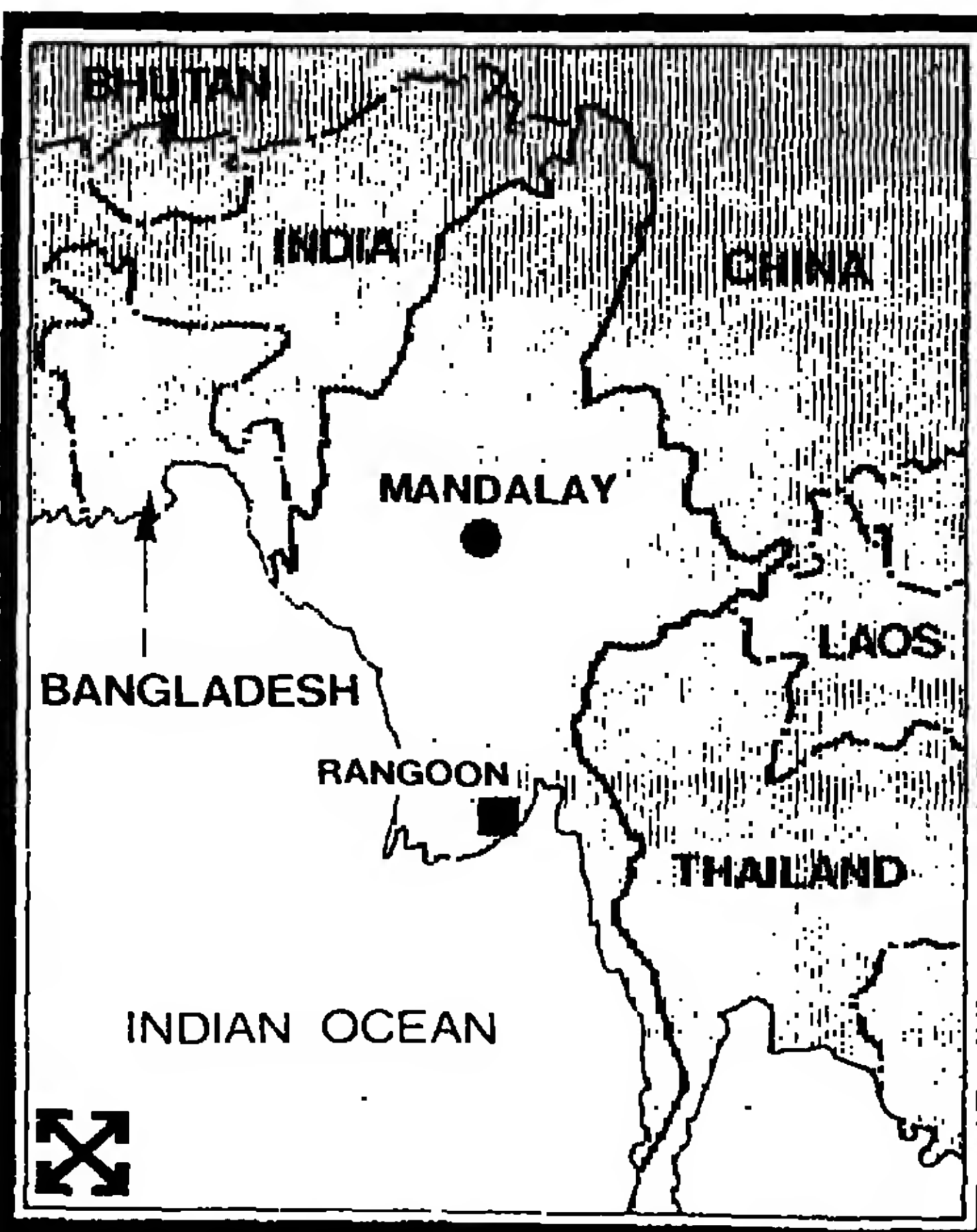
Although Maung Maung has been closely associated with the military-propped system that activists seek to dismantle, some analysts say his civilian status and only indirect involvement in the recent suppression of dissent may serve to blunt the protest movement.

The 63-year-old Maung Maung has been a journalist, lawyer and author who joined senior government and party ranks following the 1962 coup by Ne Win.

He is described by Tzang Yawnghe, and author and son of Burma's first president, as "one of the few Burmese intellectuals who sincerely and deeply admired Gen. Ne Win."

Maung Maung served as Ne Win's personal legal adviser, wrote a flattering book — "Burma and General Ne Win" — about the authoritarian leader, and was one of the architects of the country's 1974 constitution.

He was born Jan. 11, 1925 and graduated from high school in



Mandalay, the former royal capital. He enrolled at Mandalay University's law school, but his higher education was interrupted by the outbreak of World War II and the fight for Burmese independence from Great Britain.

Maung Maung joined the Burma independence army, a ragtag but fiery outfit organised by the leaders of the independence

struggle known as the "Thirty Comrades." The army, which included Ne Win in a key leadership role, marched into Burma from Thailand in early 1942 initially bent on fighting with the Japanese against the British but later switching to the allied side.

After Burma gained independence in 1948, Maung Maung studied at Rangoon University, at a

school in Britain and then at Yale University in the United States, where he received a doctorate in law.

Following the 1962 coup, he served as chief justice and in 1971 became a member of the ruling revolutionary council. He was also elected to the central committee of the Burma Socialist Programme Party.

Following the promulgation of the 1974 constitution, which he helped write, and the replacement of the council by a formal government apparatus, Maung Maung became a member of the powerful council of state.

The constitution formalised Ne Win's "Burmese way to Socialism," an amalgam of Socialism, Buddhist philosophy and centralised, one-party rule.

Maung Maung was elected to the party's central executive committee at the third party congress in 1976 and was ranked fifth in the party hierarchy. He resigned from this committee at the fifth congress in 1985.

Following the resignation of Ne Win as chairman July 23, his replacement by Sein Lwin, and the subsequent shake-ups in both party and government ranks, Maung Maung returned to the central executive committee.

He was also named attorney-general, making him only one of two civilians among retired or active military officers in the top echelons of government. The other is Education Minister Kyaw Sein.

Hugh C. MacDougall, a Burma scholar and former U.S. diplomat in Rangoon, said on the eve of the election that Maung Maung had a higher profile abroad than inside Burma.

Gulf ceasefire maps no easy roads for Iran

By Mohammad Zargham
Reuters

NICOSIA — The formal Gulf war ceasefire that started Saturday promises neither an early homecoming for hundreds of thousands of weary Iranian fighters nor easy solutions for revolutionary Iran's many problems, defence analysts say.

Iran will remain suspicious of Iraqi intentions and vigilant on its frontiers while trying to squeeze diplomatic success from peace talks due to begin in Geneva on Aug. 25.

Demobilising more than a million soldiers could be just one problem with more than four million Iranians without jobs.

Defence experts say the part that would be played by Iran's armed forces in a power struggle if internal wartime unity crumbles was unpredictable.

The end to serious fighting has already eased life in Iran, with shop prices tumbling, diplomatic isolation ending and optimism growing that one third of national oil income could soon be freed to rebuild the country.

But the experts believe Tehran's drastic about-face, in accepting the U.N. ceasefire after eight years of conflict, presents its moderate leaders with a delicate diplomatic task.

They need a victory from peace talks to show something for a war which killed or wounded an estimated one million Iranians but which failed to achieve the stated aim of toppling Iraqi government.

Military supremo Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said last week the decision to ceasefire was unpopular with the most revolutionary sections of the people, who accepted it only in obedience to spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

If Tehran fails to have Iraq branded the Gulf war aggressor in the United Nations inquiry, which is part of the peace process, hardliners like Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi are likely to gain ground.

Diplomats in Tehran have listed many factors which forced Iran to accept the year-old U.N. Resolution 598 — the ailing health of 85-year-old Khomeini, military setbacks, a battered economy, and a people demoralised by missile and chemical attacks.

Defence analysts say a long period of cold war may now follow with both sides re-arming and maintaining substantial forces at the frontiers.

President Ali Khamenei said last week Iran had to maintain a powerful force to deter any new aggression. Iran has at present an estimated 700,000 regulars and 350,000 revolutionary guards.

Iran is, however, already counting some positive diplomatic and economic spinoffs from the ceasefire.

High-powered delegations from Australia, Italy and China have been in Tehran since Iran accepted the ceasefire on July 18 and Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno flew in on Saturday.

Nearer to the hearts of ordinary Iranians, prices of many goods have already been halved, bringing welcome relief from 70 per cent annual inflation.

Tehran radio on Wednesday called for rapid action to steer the economy to a healthy course before new fears of inflation brought speculation and another price spiral.

The government has not yet announced a reconstruction policy. A third of its estimated \$9 billion oil revenue last year was spent on its war machine.

Differences

Iraq has wrecked many of Iran's power stations, oil and petrochemical plants, and factories. The diplomats say Iran is likely to opt for small and medium-sized projects which it can self-finance.

Jomhuri Islami newspaper cautioned this week in a comment on relations with Japan: "The attractive, yet deadly, traps of low-interest loans and aid for industrial reconstruction... have already begun to spread."

Diplomats say the end of war could remove a major force for unity and bring differences among leaders to the fore.

Sharp divisions remain over government's role in the economy, although parliamentarians favouring greater state control won the upper hand in April and May elections.

But an Iranian political analyst, who asked not to be named, said Iran's about-face in accepting the ceasefire was a visible triumph for the pragmatic faction of leaders led by Rafsanjani.

"Rafsanjani and his friends want economic power concentrated in the government," he said. "They don't want it scattered in the bazaar among many merchants."

Bazaar merchants were a powerful political and economic force before the 1979 Islamic revolution brought down the shah.

The analyst said the Rafsanjani group would stress industrial development and large-scale modern agriculture. They would favour technocrats over ideologically sound, but often incompetent, functionaries.

Iran's leaders have already sent conflicting signals on what the people can expect from a peacetime economy.

Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri, Khomeini's designated successor, last week urged the government to attack inflation and wipe out the rampant black market.

"If the war has been an excuse so far, hopefully it will end soon," he said.

But chief justice Abdolkarim Mousavi Ardebili wants austerity to continue and has said it would be disastrous to nurture expectations of an easy life.

"If we regard the end of the war as a gateway to welfare and (if we) adopt an open-door policy, we will fall into the economic grips of world arrogance," he said.

"Don't entertain such thoughts but rather tighten your belts."

Egypt set to rejoin Arab League

ELEVEN ARAB states have assured President Hosni Mubarak that Egypt's membership of the Arab League will be restored at the next Arab summit meeting, scheduled to be held in Riyadh in November, according to the Egyptian daily Al Wafd.

The report said that His Majesty King Hussein, Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein were amongst the Arab leaders who had made this "firm promise" to the Egyptian leader.

Egypt's League membership was suspended at the Arab summit in Baghdad in 1979, in retaliation for President Sadat's conclusion of the Camp David peace treaty with Israel. The summit also decided to sever all relations with Cairo. While providing for a normalisation of Egyptian-Israeli ties, the treaty offered nothing to the Palestinians, whose plight lies at the heart of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and it ignored the question of Syria's Golan Heights, occupied by Israel since 1967.

Despite the Baghdad decision, however, Oman, Somalia and Sudan retained diplomatic relations with Cairo, while Jordan restored ties in 1984 and Djibouti early last year. Since the Arab summit in Amman last autumn, eleven states plus the PLO have restored links with Egypt, leaving Syria, Libya, Algeria and Lebanon as the only countries still

shunning Cairo. Algeria, however, is thought no longer to feel strongly on the subject, while Lebanon's position mainly reflects a desire in Beirut not to offend Damascus.

According to Al Wafd, intensive Arab diplomatic efforts are now under way to persuade Libya and Syria to drop their objections to Cairo's readmission to the League. The paper said that King Hussein and the United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan are seeking to mend fences between Egypt and Syria while President Ali Saleh of North Yemen, Ahmad Al Mirghani of Sudan and Zine AL Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia are trying to clear the air between Libya and Egypt.

In April, Egypt was readmitted to membership of several Arab financial institutions, and last month the executive committee of the Arab League's Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALESCO) agreed to restore Egypt's membership of the body. Libya voted against, and responded to the decision by announcing that it was withdrawing from ALESCO. However, Syria, Algeria and Lebanon, which had voted against Cairo's readmission to the Arab financial agencies, merely abstained. Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding.

Arafat seen preparing to recognise Israel

By John Fullerton
Reuters

NICOSIA — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat seems set for historic compromise in his people's 40-year struggle for statehood.

Some Western analysts believe he is paving the way for possible recognition of Israel and establishment of a Palestinian state in the Israeli-occupied territories.

"It's a huge gamble, but I don't see he has much alternative," said a European specialist in Arab affairs.

One danger for Arafat is a rift among his own supporters and another that a bellicose Israel might quash any serious PLO attempt at reconciliation with an iron fist.

Failure to push ahead with his initiative would mean an unacceptable loss of support for Arafat within the underground leadership of the eight-month-old Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, diplomats said.

But if the moderate trend triumphed, it could provide the next U.S. president with a test of America's close support for Israel soon after November's presidential election.

Former U.S. ambassador and administration adviser Robert Neumann has said the new president must deal with PLO.

"Whether or the United States likes it or not, there is no substitute for the PLO," he said.

last week. Washington says it will not talk to the PLO until it recognises Israel.

Analysts said the first concrete step was likely to be an announcement within weeks of plans to set up either a Palestinian government-in-exile or a provisional government inside the occupied territories.

A senior Palestinian source close to the PLO leadership told Reuters in Baghdad four days ago the PLO would recommend creation of a government-in-exile at a meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers. No date has yet been set.

The analysts said Arafat was expected to follow this up by clarifying the PLO's attitude to Israel when he addressed the European Parliament in Strasbourg Sept. 12.

A U.N.-sponsored Gulf ceasefire and Iraq's emergence from its preoccupation with Iran on the battlefield were important factors in the new PLO strategy.

"There has been a definite change of climate and attitude within the PLO leadership," said one diplomat.

"I don't think this would have been possible without Baghdad, a steadfast supporter of Fateh."

Aff Saieh, PLO representative at the Hague, said earlier this month Iraq's role might be to moderate Israeli policy.

"The ceasefire means Iraq is lack in the Arab-Israeli equation after its resources and energies have been diverted



Yasser Arafat elsewhere," he said.

Winds of change

Arafat's political adviser, Bassam Abu Sharif, wrote an article last May which first signalled the PLO wind of change.

Abu Sharif came out in support of talks with Israel within the framework of a U.N.-sponsored peace conference as well as U.N. resolutions implying recognition of Israel.

In June, Arafat's deputy, Salah Khalaf, criticised Abu Sharif for making "vague political gestures."

Yet Khalaf said in an article published in France last Sunday that the PLO hoped to form a provisional government, implying self-styled statehood in the territories.

"We are not planning to form a government-in-exile but a provisional government," he told the Journal du Dimanche, adding that its political programme would mark a radical departure from the PLO's national charter.

A land-for-peace approach to the Arab-Israeli dispute has long been embraced by moderates, but others have been loath to relinquish all claim to land inside Israel's pre-1948 borders.

Sudan reports suspected cholera cases

KHARTOUM (R) — Cholera may have caused the deaths of seven adults in flood-stricken Khartoum over the past week, Sudan said Saturday, giving credence to widespread predictions of an imminent outbreak of epidemics.

The deaths, reported by the Health Ministry, came amid fears that large areas of Sudan could be devastated by fresh floods if the waters of the River Nile rose any further.

Up to two million people in the Khartoum area lost their homes in floods caused by torrential rains in early August. Most of the victims still lack adequate shelter, food or medical care.

A total of 3,000 tonnes of relief supplies had arrived from abroad by Thursday night, but officials

said it was insufficient to meet the scale of the disaster, the worst in Sudan in living memory.

Benjamin Loevisohn of the Health Ministry told Reuters that six adults had died after being admitted to hospital in north Khartoum with severe diarrhoea. A seventh patient suffering from diarrhoea died in Khartoum's twin city of Omdurman.

"It is very suspicious and a team has gone out today to check their clinical history," said Loevisohn, seconded from the

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

"We don't want to create a scare, but it is of no interest to anybody to underestimate the threat of cholera."

The floods of Aug. 4 and 5 created unhygienic conditions in many densely-populated areas of Khartoum where acute shortages of fresh water forced people to drink boiled flood water.

Health Ministry and U.N. officials say young children will be most at risk if the predicted outbreaks of cholera, typhoid, malaria, measles or dysentery materialise.

They estimated that 400,000 children under the age of five were among the homeless flood victims. A Health Ministry survey

of 2,257 patients in Khartoum said almost half of them were aged under five.

The Irrigation Ministry said the Nile was still rising in Khartoum and repeated warnings to people in the capital and the northern region to take maximum precautions against floods.

The Nile is now only two centimetres below the level registered Aug. 19, 1946, when Khartoum and parts of the northern region were inundated by their worst floods on record.

Additional threat

The head of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Friday called on donor governments to provide extra funds for Sudan, where an invasion of locusts threaten to

ruin the harvest.

FAO Director-General Edouard Saouma said he had approved 6,000 tonnes of emergency food at a cost of \$4.4 million for Sudan after the floods.

The floods had already damaged groundnuts, cotton and many food crops, while desert locusts were devastating sorghum and millet fields. Saouma said in a statement.

"We are deeply concerned about the effect of one natural disaster after another," he said referring to a drought which preceded the downpour.

"This, therefore, is a doubly disastrous situation which requires an immediate increase in assistance from the international community," he added.

Fahd to visit Egypt possibly this month

BAHRAIN (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia will visit Cairo at the invitation of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak at a date yet to be fixed, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported.

The agency, quoting an official source, said Friday night King Fahd's visit to Egypt was certain but the two countries had still to set a date.

Several Gulf newspapers have said the Saudi monarch will fly to Cairo in mid-September for a reconciliation role between Egypt

and Libya and Egypt and Algeria ahead of a proposed Arab summit meeting in Riyadh later this year.

Diplomatic sources in Riyadh, however, said King Fahd will fly to Cairo Aug. 28 as part of a tour that will also take him to Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco.

Mubarak visited Saudi Arabia last January following the resumption of diplomatic ties between Cairo and Riyadh, cut in protest against the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli treaty.



King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz

Turkey assails Greece over EEC bid

ANKARA (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz accused Greece Friday of not always keeping to the spirit of an agreement to improve relations.

Last January, Premier Andreas Papandreu of Greece and Premier Turgut Ozal of Turkey agreed at a meeting in Davos, Switzerland, to try to resolve their disputes through dialogue.

Yilmaz, giving his first news conference since taking over the post nine months ago, said Friday that Greece sometimes deviated from the spirit of the Davos accord.

As an example, he said, Athens contended that discussion of the Cyprus problem was key to a continuing dialogue.

Turkey believes that direct negotiations between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities

is the best way to realise reunification of the island.

The two countries have also disagreed over Aegean Sea rights.

Yilmaz additionally criticised Greek opposition to Turkey's becoming a full member of the European Economic Community (EEC). "It is in Greek interest to have Turkey within the community," he said.

The "spirit of Davos" should not be sacrificed for petty interests or gains, Yilmaz said.

"Their need for Davos is just as much as our need for it," he said.

"We will find out their real intentions and attitude at the table," Yilmaz said, referring to a meeting of officials of both sides to be held in Ankara Sept. 5-8.

EEC members are awaiting an

EEC commission report on Turkey's April 1987 application for full membership. EEC diplomats say it will take several years to complete the report.

The application has met stiff resistance from several member states, notably Greece.

Yilmaz's statement, his first on the subject since taking office nine months ago, did not set out new policy but reflected Ankara's growing frustration with the EEC talks.

Prime Minister Turgut Ozal raised the possibility in May that Turkey might leave NATO over the issue, but diplomats said this was unlikely.

EEC officials publicly cite the Turkish army's presence in north Cyprus, mismatched economies and a poor human rights record as reasons to take their time.

Iran says U.S. solely responsible in Airbus case

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Iran has rejected American claims that Tehran shared responsibility for the destruction of an Iranian jetliner by the U.S. navy, saying the navy's presence in the Gulf was to blame.

"Our civil airliner was using an internationally recognised air corridor, used five times a week by the same captain," Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Jafar Mahallati told reporters Friday.

During a naval skirmish with Iranian gunboats July 3, U.S. officials said the crew of the USS Vincennes misinterpreted radar and electronic signals from the civilian airliner and shot it down, killing 290 people aboard.

A U.S. Defence Department investigation released Friday blamed human error by the crew, but Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci said Iran bore a heavy responsibility for letting the plane fly over a naval battle.

The report showed several of the crew's assumptions about the approaching flight were wrong: — The flight was within civilian air corridors, not off course; — It was not descending towards the Vincennes on an attack course, but rising;

— The flight did not transmit a radio signal identifying it as a military aircraft.

U.S. officials said the crew thought the flight was an approaching Iranian warplane.

Mahallati was scathingly critical of those mistaken early assumptions, which the Defence

Department made public right after the disaster.

"In the view of the American administration, when such incidents take place at the price of the lives of 290 people, first you cannot provide the American people with facts," he said. "It is better to forge information, to misinform them than to keep quiet and wait until the facts come out."

The Iranian envoy said the U.S. navy presence was to blame.

"One should conclude that the mere presence of such highly dangerous equipment, which cannot be controlled even by trained American personnel, is the source of tension," he said. "By itself it can cause miseries, and after the other."

He called for the U.S. fleet to pull out of the Gulf, saying the ceasefire between Iran and Iraq made it unnecessary.

Mahallati also called on America to pay reparations to Iran for the loss of the plane and its passengers and crew, and to issue a formal apology.

President Ronald Reagan sent America's regrets, and the United States accepted responsibility for shooting down the plane. But the United States blames Iran for sending the flight over a combat zone, and has not apologised.

Reagan has approved the payment of damages directly to the families of the victims, but not reparations to Iran, or any payment that Tehran's government would receive.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

New civil status regulations announced

(Continued from page 1)

document (*lam al shamel*). Dajani said these category of people was not included in the measures since the reunification documents entitles the holders to retain ownership of property in the West Bank. "This document is carried by people who have been living outside the West Bank since before 1967 and some of them do not even live in the East Bank," the minister noted.

Passports for Gazans

Gazans who already possess Jordanian passports will continue to carry them but the passports would be renewed upon expiry only for renewable terms of two years. Also, no new Jordanian passport will be issued to Gazans who already do not have one and those passports which have been invalid for more than one year will not be renewed, according to the statement from the Prime Ministry.

Procedures in Amman

One of the effects of Jordan's move to sever formal ties with the West Bank was the closure of offices there handling affairs related to passports. These offices were closed in line with the retirement of civil servants as of Aug. 16, 1988. Dajani said the procedures of renewing passports now would have to be completed in Amman.

"Everyone must come to Amman to finish their paper work," Dajani said. He explained that the now-closed offices in the West Bank used to scrutinise papers, distribute forms and collect applications for once-a-month delivery to Amman for final processing.

According to the prime minister's statement, the Kingdom will only make some minor changes in current procedures covering entry of people as well as the traffic of manufactured and agricultural products from the occupied territories.

'Green cards'

People who carry green travel documents for crossing the bridge will be limited to a maximum of a one-month stay in the Kingdom, the announcement said. The green card identifies the holder as a resident of the occupied territories while yellow cards signify that the holder is living somewhere else other than the occupied territories. The statement said students, Palestinians working abroad and the sick who come to Jordan for treatment were exempt from this limitation on period of stay.

The Kingdom will also participate in the educational process in the occupied territories "if schools in the West Bank opt for the Jordanian educational system," the announcement said. The Ministry of Education will provide schools with all necessary arrangements to hold the last year of school examination (*tawjihi*) in the occupied territories

and will grade and issue degrees in Amman, it said.

Full text of statement

Following is the full text of the prime minister's statement:

In step with Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative links with the occupied West Bank, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Saturday issued the following instructions which are to take immediate effect:

1. For the purpose of giving facilities to the Palestinian inhabitants of the occupied West Bank, the government has decided to issue them Jordanian passports valid for two years.

2. All citizens living in the occupied West Bank before July 31, 1988, will be Palestinian citizens and not Jordanian citizens.

3. West Bankers will be issued temporary passports valid for two years based on contents of documents acceptable to the civil registration and passports departments before the severance of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank.

4. Any person wishing to obtain a temporary Jordanian passport has to present an application in person to the Passports Department along with the required documents and no applications can be accepted from others acting on the applications' behalf.

5. Only documents endorsed by the Awqaf Department in the West Bank are acceptable to the department for the purpose of issuing a temporary passport.

6. Passports issued before July 31, 1988, will remain valid until they expire but when these passports are submitted to the Passports Department for any official procedure the department will replace them with a temporary two-year passport without any charging any fees.

7. These regulations do not apply to citizens who have been included in the family reunion scheme.

8. Citizens from the Gaza Strip will continue to obtain two-year temporary passports.

9. No more temporary passports will be issued for citizens from the Gaza Strip if their passports remained invalid for a year or more.

10. Persons whose names were included in passports issued to citizens from the Gaza Strip can obtain two-year temporary passports.

11. The Civil Registration Department will stop issuing family books for citizens from the occupied West Bank.

12. All family books issued by the Civil Registration Department for West Bankers are considered invalid. When such books are presented to the department for any procedure they are endorsed as cancelled.

13. Family books and identity cards will remain with their holders serving only as identification documents.

14. Certificates of birth, marriage, divorce and inheritance are to be considered valid only if they are endorsed by the chief Islamic justice office in the West Bank

and also by the Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestinian Affairs.

15. Yellow and green cards issued to travellers across the bridges will remain valid but holders of green cards can only stay in the East Bank for one month. Students, patients seeking medical treatment in the Kingdom's hospitals and people working abroad are excluded from this order.

16. Importation of agricultural products from the West Bank and Gaza will continue in the light of Jordan's needs.

The Jordan Cooperative Organisation in the West Bank will be charged with the task of issuing certificates of origin for various products allowed to enter the Kingdom.

The Charitable Organisation in Gaza will issue certificates of origin for crops coming into Jordan from the occupied Gaza Strip.

17. The Ministry of Agriculture will issue permits to allow crops to come into the East Bank from the West Bank in accordance with a system to be worked out in coordination with the Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestinian Affairs.

18. Industrial products will be allowed to come here from the West Bank in accordance with the same principles and according to Jordan's need.

19. Organisations like professional unions, societies and municipalities, youth centres and clubs are permitted to draw from their accounts in the Kingdom's banks against a certified cheque from the Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestinian Affairs.

20. Regulations governing the registration of land will remain unchanged provided they are endorsed by the Department of Awqaf.

21. If schools in the West Bank wish to continue to follow the Jordanian system, the Ministry of Education will work out necessary arrangements for *tawjihi* examinations there but examination papers will be marked in Amman where the Ministry of Education will issue certificates.

22. Trucks from the West Bank will be allowed to cross into the Kingdom but will be subject to "temporary entry" regulations.

Iran-Iraq ceasefire takes hold

(Continued from page 1)

Iraqi shipping in any way, Iraq will not submit but will resist strongly."

At Muslim prayer times, 101-gun artillery salutes boomed out across Iraq to greet the 0300 GMT ceasefire at the front, where the rival armies were virtually back at their border positions of eight year ago.

"I am most happy to inform you the ceasefire is operation on both sides," said Jovic. "We deployed our forces. They are in their places."

Palestinians vow to defy ban on 'popular committees'

By Nicolas B. Tatro
The Associated Press

BEIT SAHUR, occupied West Bank — Leaders of banned grassroots committees in the occupied territories are vowing to defy Israeli attempts to uproot the informal system of Palestinian self-rule.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin set the stage for a major test of wills by banning the so-called "popular committees" Thursday and threatening to expel prominent activists.

Palestinian intellectuals said Friday the organisations are far too extensive to be broken by the army.

"It's a way of life now," said Saad Erakat, a Palestinian professor at the now-closed Al Najah university in Nablus.

"I don't think Rabin, with all the military might at his disposal, can do anything about it except cause more suffering."

The groups number in the hundreds and have been set up in

villages, towns and on almost every city block.

They began forming last spring in response to leaflets put out by the clandestine United National Leadership of the Uprising, which is linked to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"The local committees provide an alternative authority to occupation, and their ultimate aim is to cut ties between the people and Israel's military government," said a 50-year-old teacher who has been jailed several times for political activism in recent years. He demanded anonymity to avoid arrest.

Support for local committees appears to be strong in Beit Sahur, fuelled mostly by anger over the actions of Israeli soldiers, who are blamed for the death of a 17-year-old boy killed by a rock, and the arrests of 120 residents.

Residents turned in their identity cards in protest after soldiers broke into living rooms to confiscate television sets and

took cars from driveways in raids against delinquent taxpayers.

Non-violent activities

The committees in Beit Sahur, following a pattern repeated throughout the occupied lands, mobilised Palestinians for a variety of non-violent activities:

— Planting gardens to make Palestinians less dependent on Israeli markets and to raise money for other activities.

— Setting up underground schools after Israel shut five universities and 1,500 elementary and secondary schools;

— Giving money and food to families who have quit jobs in Israel or whose breadwinners are in jail;

— Guarding the neighbourhoods from thieves after Palestinian policemen quit their jobs;

— Providing medical care for injured protesters.

A 45-year-old professional who heads one local committee said the army recently arrested volun-

teers who obeyed underground leaflets urging a clean-up in the absence of city garbage collection, which was suspended because of a lack of tax revenues.

"It's ridiculous," fumed the committee leader. "Is it political for me to want to plant vegetables, teach my son or clean the street?"

An Israeli defence ministry announcement warned that "every person who continues to be a member of popular committees and every person who assists these committees will face arrest and trial."

Moshe Negbi of Israel's Civil Rights Association said the order meant that anyone carrying a leaflet, attending a meeting, performing a service or paying a tax to a committee could be sentenced to 10 years in jail.

Answer to Rabin

The underground's answer to Rabin appeared in graffiti near Beit Sahur's now-inactive city hall, where activists scrawled in

blue spray paint: "Increased violence will only increase our resistance" and "form more popular committees."

The committee leader said committees would have to become a "bit more cautious," even go underground if necessary, but "we are not going to stop cooperating with each other... people don't fear the soldiers any more. We got rid of our fear."

Other grassroots groups known as "strike forces" have painted slogans on walls and distributed leaflets telling residents when to stay home from work and when to open stores.

Masked teenagers act as enforcers, threatening and then punishing those who pay Israeli taxes or defy the strike calls.

In Beit Sahur, for example, a car belonging to a doctor was burned because he paid an Israeli licensing fee so he could use his car to visit patients. One community leader said he disagreed with the arson but his committee was not consulted.

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Money-changers deny violating CBJ rules

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Economics Correspondent

AMMAN — Money-changers have categorically denied a report published Saturday accusing them of carrying out illegal transactions in violation of recent Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) regulations.

One money-changer told the Jordan Times that a report by economist Fahed Fanek, published in Al Ra'i, "contained nothing but rumours that harm the national economy."

Fanek said there were "huge transactions in the domestic exchange market that are illegal and in violation of rules governing foreign exchange." He warned the Central Bank that existing regulations were not being implemented.

He said speculators were now buying hundreds of thousands of Iraqi dinars "which affects the stability of the Jordanian dinar," adding that speculation was also active on the Lebanese pound.

The speculation over the Iraqi dinar was triggered by the Gulf war ceasefire while the Lebanese pound was expected to gain value after the election of a new president.

"It is no secret that most licensed money-changers are not complying with the rules and that

they are still dealing with money transfers and keeping accounts abroad," Fanek wrote. He added that money-changers were not selling cheques they receive to Jordanian banks but were using them "to finance smuggling, thus draining the Kingdom's unofficial revenue of foreign currency."

Ghazi Saudi, a money-changer, said that although there was a higher demand on the Lebanese pound and the Iraqi dinar because of political developments, about 80 per cent of the volume of the two currencies was going to speculators in Arab Gulf states. He said the overall volume of trading in the two currencies was negligible and that there was no cause for worry.

The Central Bank Saturday played down the problem but acknowledged that some money-changers were found not to adhere to CBJ regulations regarding their dealings with foreign currency.

Instructions issued in June ban-

ned money-changers from dealing with money transfers and keeping accounts abroad and restricted them to dealing with bank notes only.

A Central Bank official, who preferred anonymity, said that measures would soon be taken to ensure that all money-changers comply with these regulations. He refused to elaborate on these measures.

But money-changers argued that capital flight was mostly carried out by banks and that the volume of money in the hands of money-changers was negligible and served only people's "legitimate" needs.

One money-changer said Fanek's accusations were "unfounded, irresponsible and cause unnecessary disturbances in the market."

He said that "some pressure" on the Jordanian dinar might have been caused by a shortage of foreign currency, a decline in remittances from Jordanian expatriates and lack of transfers from West Bank Palestinians. "But this is not our fault," he said.

Dealers at the local exchange market quoted the U.S. dollar at 390-395 fils Saturday, compared to the Central Bank's 373-377 fils official guideline for banks.

JPMC plans to boost fertiliser production

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) plans to revamp its Aqaba fertiliser plant so as to reach the plant's design capacity of 1,250 tonnes of phosphoric acid a day and to increase capacity by a further 100 tonnes a day, JPMC Director General Wasef Azar confirmed Saturday.

He said that the \$402.8 million plant was operating at only 65 per cent capacity due to technical problems since its completion by France's Spie Batignolles in 1982.

Four companies have submitted bids for consultancy and supervision for the plant's modification. The closing date for the bid has been set for Sept. 15 and contractors are being asked to provide financing offers.

"Our objective is to improve the productivity level of our plant in Aqaba to reach full capacity," Azar told the Jordan Times. "The plant's original contractors did not complete this job and we are on arbitration with them."

The JPMC chief said he expected the modifications to take between 15 and 20 months to complete.

JPMC expects itself to finance the work if bidders do not supply satisfactory proposals.

Asked about the marketing of the additional phosphoric acid to be produced, Azar said there was great demand for the fertiliser and that marketing was no problem.

JEA gets \$12.8m syndicate loan for Al Rishah project

AMMAN (J.T.) — A consortium of banks led by the Arab Bank is providing \$12.8 million to the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) to finance the major part of a power generating project at Al Rishah area, according to an agreement signed here.

Al Dustour Arabic daily said the project, which is estimated at \$18.3 million, was designed to exploit natural gas found in abundance at Al Rishah area near the Iraqi border to generate power and reduce the Kingdom's dependence on imported oil for this process.

The Natural Resources Authority (NRA) which works closely with the JEA, last year conducted successful studies at Al Rishah, and developed a well which now produces 15 million cubic metres of gas on a daily basis, according to a NRA spokesman.

Last April, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib announced that Jordan would start using Al Rishah natural gas for power generation early next year.

Industry requesting it to instruct local manufacturers to contact Egyptian officials to conclude sales contracts and to define the cost of products.

Coinciding with the JCCC statement, a statistical bulletin issued by the Department of Statistics Saturday indicated that Jordan's national exports in the first two months of 1988 rose by JD 20 million over the figures of the same months last year.

The total exports in January and February, it said, amounted to JD 48 million against JD 28 million in the same period of last year.

The JCCC sent a memorandum to the Amman Chamber of

Central banks fail to dent dollar

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The dollar shrugged off central bank selling for the third consecutive day Friday, recovering most of its early losses by the end of a quiet session to close mixed against other major currencies.

Wall Street stocks ended the week lower after a late selloff, while gold prices and treasury bond prices showed little movement.

Traders said the West German Bundesbank and the U.S. Federal Reserve sold dollars in the open market. Both banks had intervened Wednesday and were joined Thursday by seven other European nations.

The selling pushed the dollar down early in the day, sending it as low as 1.88 West German marks, down about two pence from Thursday's close.

But high U.S. interest rates continued to underpin the dollar and it recovered later in the day to close at 1.8975 marks from 1.8955 Thursday.

The dollar was higher against the Japanese yen at 133.65 from 133.35. It was unchanged against the Swiss franc at 1.5955.

The market's outlook for the dollar has been positive, due mainly to the high level of U.S. interest rates.

Treasury bond prices erased earlier gains to close little changed, with the benchmark 30-year bond up just 1/32 at 97-8/32.

A flurry of profit-taking hit Wall Street, breaking a three-session advance and ending the week on a negative note.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which rose only 1.07 points Thursday, lost 11.03 points to close at 2,016.00.

In London, the dollar fell against the British pound. It cost 1.7025 to buy one pound, more expensive than \$1.6989 late Thursday. Later, in New York, a pound was worth \$1.6985, a bit cheaper than \$1.6990 late Thursday.

Other late dollar rates in New York, compared with late Thursday's rates, included: 1.5955 Swiss francs, up from 1.5945; 6.4190 French francs, down from 6.4470; 1,405.00 Italian lire, down from 1,406.00; and 1,2300 Canadian dollars, up from 1,2295.

Iran, Turkey discuss joint economic council

ANKARA (OPECNA) — Turkish Minister of State for Economic Affairs Yusuf Ozal has held talks here with Iranian Ambassador Manuchehr Motaki on the formation of a joint economic and commercial council between two countries. The meeting also covered expansion of Iran-Turkey mutual cooperation and examined developments within the framework of the economic cooperation organisation linking Iran, Turkey and Pakistan.

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday rates Local sell/buy rates in fils			
Belgian franc (for 10)	93.90	Saudi riyal	101.0/ 102.0
Dutch guilder	174.30	Syrian lira (for JD 1)	100.0/ 102.0
French franc	58.00	Lebanese lira (for JD 1)	850.0/ 900.0
Italian lira (for 100)	26.60	Iraqi dinar	500.0/ 530.0
Japanese yen (for 100)	279.30	Kuwaiti dinar	1335.0/ 1345.0
Swedish crown	57.40	Egyptian pound	164.0/ 168.0
Swiss franc	233.80	Qatari riyal	104.0/ 105.0
U.K. sterling pound	633.60	UAE dirham	105.0/ 106.5
U.S. dollar	373.00	Omani riyal	990.0/ 1000.0
Deutschemark	196.60	Bahraini dinar	1000.0/ 1010.0

JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Ministry of Industry and Trade	663191	Jordan Commercial Centres Corporation	603507
Ministry of Supply	602121	Free Zones Corporation	643001
Ministry of Finance	636321	Amman Financial Market	660170
Ministry of Planning	644466	Amman Chamber of Commerce	666151
Ministry of Labour	643186	Amman Chamber of Industry	644747
Ministry of Communications	847391	Association of Banks in Jordan	662238
Ministry of Agriculture	639931	Jordan Association of Insurance Companies	647370
Income Tax Department	660151	General Statistics Department	846171
Central Bank of Jordan	639301	Jordanian Businessmen Association	680663
Amman Customs Department	772181		
Social Security Corporation	643000		
Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation	721194		

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for August 20, 1988.			
	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	227212	JD 234283	352
Top three companies:			
Jordan Phosphate Mines	13000	JD 33150	5
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	24250	JD 28510	54
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	15169	JD 23299	37
Parallel market:	16556	JD 6830	—

ECONOMIC NEWS IN BRIEF

Shell Nigeria reports new oil find

LAGOS (R) — Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria, the country's biggest oil company, said Friday it had struck crude oil and gas in three wells in the Niger delta. It said the wells, drilled in the mid-western Bendel state, contained reserves of 80 million barrels of oil and 250 billion cubic feet of gas. It was the second significant find reported this year by the company, a joint venture in which the state oil firm Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation has an 80 per cent stake. The rest belongs to the Royal/Dutch Shell group. In January it reported two finds with estimated recoverable reserves of over 80 million barrels.

New Pertamina boss installed

JAKARTA (AP) — Oil executive Faizal Abdoo was installed Friday as the new chief executive of the state-owned Pertamina Oil Company, Indonesia's largest company. Abdoo took over from Abdul Rachman Ramli, who is being assigned as Indonesia's ambassador to the United States. Abdoo, formerly Pertamina's finance director, is the first civilian to head the company, which has been traditionally run by army generals. Ramli is a retired army lieutenant general. Another Pertamina official, Soegianto, was installed as finance director to replace Abdoo.

Iran spends \$200m on its ports

NICOSIA (R) — Iran is spending more than \$200 million on the construction of six new ports on the Arabian and Caspian seas. The Iranian news agency IRNA Thursday, gave no indication of the size of the ports, describing them as multi-purpose with "a total credit of 15 billion rials (\$211.2 million)." The agency quoted the head of Iran's ports and shipping agency Mohammad Madad as saying in an interview that ports damaged in the Gulf war would be repaired and reexploited. IRNA said Iran had signed a \$10 million contract with the Soviet Union for two cargo ships. "Once the ships are launched a shipping line between the Caspian ports of Anzali and Noshahr, in Iran, and Baku, in the Soviet Union will be practically established," he told IRNA. He said Iran had started installing equipment at Anzali which would enable it to export oil via the Caspian Sea.

Pan Am seeks sale of its L. American division

NEW YORK (R) — Pan Am Corp. which has shed large chunks of its assets in the past to keep flying, is looking to sell its Latin American routes. The company would not say if the whole Latin American division or only selected routes were up for sale, but the news has pushed Pan Am's stock up 25 cents at \$2.75 in New York. The airline's Latin American division serves eight cities in South America and five cities in Central America from New York, Miami and Los Angeles. The division accounts for about 17 per cent of Pan American's seat capacity.

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Free Zones Corporation expects rise in demand for its facilities

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Free Zones Corporation (FZC) expects an increase in demand for its facilities in the wake of the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, FZC Director-General Yassin Al Kayed said Saturday.

In remarks carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Kayed said the corporation had already received an increasing number of requests from investors from places as far as Hong Kong for details about the facilities and services offered by the corporation, conditions for investments in the industrial sector and incentives and privileges offered by the government.

Kayed said some local investors had visited the FZC and were told that exemptions from taxes for such projects could end for as long as 12 years for products manufactured for export only.

He said all primary and raw materials entering the free zones for manufacturing purposes would

be completely exempted from any customs duty and that they would not require a special licence for reexport.

Kayed said all non-Jordanians working within the free zones were exempt from income and other taxes and all installations set up within the free zones were exempt from tax imposed normally on real estate or lands.

In addition, Kayed said, investors have the right to transfer any amount of funds and capital profits into or out of the free zones without any restriction.

According to Kayed, Arab countries have agreed to set up a pan-Arab union of free zones which would study problems related to their work and would be charged with coordinating functions.

Referring to the FZC's future plans, Kayed said plans had been drawn up for enlarging the pre-

sent facilities at the free zones in Jordan by at least 50 per cent.

The first free zone area was established in Aqaba in 1973 and the second was established in Zarqa in 1983.

American deficit rises

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal budget deficit surged to \$22.9 billion in July after posting a rare surplus the previous month, the Treasury Department reported Friday.

The July deficit followed a \$9.3 billion surplus in June, when quarterly income tax payments by businesses and individuals put the government's ledger books into the black.

For the first 10 months of the fiscal year that began last Oct. 1, the federal deficit totalled \$142.0 billion, virtually identical to the \$142.9 billion deficit recorded during the same period last year.

President Ronald Reagan's administration is projecting the deficit for the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30, at \$152.3 billion. That is slightly higher than the \$146.7 billion deficit estimate the administration made in February, but below the \$157 billion estimate made by the congressional budget office at the beginning of the year.

Better-than-expected economic growth, which has boosted government revenues and lowered government spending for such programmes as unemployment benefits, has been credited with reducing the deficit this year.

Many economists believe the deficit will rise again in the 1989 fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1. The administration, however, predicts it will drop to \$140.1 billion next year, when figured according to guidelines contained in the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction law.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION WATER AND SEWERAGE PROJECTS CONTRACTS NO. 79, 87, 88, 89, 90 AND 92/88

- 1) The Government Tenders Directorate invites experienced Jordanian consultants who have been listed as Consultant Grade in the field of Water and Sewerage Projects for at least six months by the Jordan Engineers Association and consultants experienced and specialised in the field of Water and Sewerage Projects from member countries of the World Bank, Switzerland and Taiwan-China to submit proposals for the supervision of construction of contracts as described hereinafter. The construction contracts consist of the installation and supply and installation of water networks, sewers and lifting stations.
- 2) The request for proposals is obtainable from the Tenders Department at the Water Authority for a non-refundable sum of JD 50.
- 3) Last date for purchase of tender documents: 07.09.1988.
- 4) The proposals as outlined in the request for proposals shall be delivered in a sealed envelope to the Office of the Director of the Government Tenders Directorate not later than 13:30 hours Jordan local time on 24.09.1988.

Chairman, Central Tenders Committee
Director, Government Tenders Directorate

CONCORD

Tel: 677420

ABOUT LAST NIGHT

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RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

THE MORNING AFTER

Performances: 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

NIJOU CINEMA

Tel: 675571

MASTER PLASTER

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

PLAZA

Tel: 677420

BEACH GIRLS

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Tripartite pact signed in Paris for Kanak peace

PARIS (R) — The French government and loyalists and separatists from France's south Pacific territory of New Caledonia signed an accord Saturday on legislation to decide the future of the islands for the next 10 years.

"This morning we have succeeded," French overseas territories Minister Louis le Penec told a news conference at the end of three days of talks.

"It is an event almost undreamed of when one remembers the situation in New Caledonia three months ago," he said.

Sporadic violence between pro-French loyalists settlers and Kanak (Melanesian) separatists has troubled New Caledonia for several years.

Twenty-eight people died in the territory last April and May in fighting between the factions.

The peace plan includes the main terms hammered out last June by Prime Minister Michael Rocard and signed by Kanak separatists and settlers' representatives.

The plan calls for a referendum on independence to be held in 1998 after a transitional 10-year period of limited self-government.

During the transition, the territory will be divided into three provinces, two of them allocated

to the separatists.

Partition of the territory aimed at "ending the economic, social and cultural imbalances in New Caledonia and giving the Melanesian community its proper place," a summary of the agreement said.

Separatist leader Jean-Marie Tjibaou, who headed the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) delegation, hailed the accord as a "grand victory for New Caledonia."

He said the FLNKS had signed the accord hoping that New Caledonia would be independent within 10 years.

Questioned about the referendum on independence, Senator Dick Ukeiwe, leader of the settlers' delegation, said: "I will let the future speak for itself."

The accord puts Rocard in a strong position for his visit to the islands from Aug. 26 to 28.

A national referendum to launch the peace plan will probably be held near the end of October, French officials said earlier this week.

Theories abound on Zia's death

ISLAMABAD (R) — Islamabad is buzzing with theories as to who might have murdered Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq if, as widely suspected, the plane crash which killed him was no accident.

"Zia had so many enemies it could have been any one of dozens of groups," a Western analyst commented.

Pakistani officials strongly suspect foreign agents. "It certainly was a foreign hand," a senior official said.

No one is willing to be quoted, but many point the finger at Afghanistan, whose Soviet-backed government has reason to loath Zia because of his steady support for guerrillas dedicated to overthrowing President Najibullah in Kabul.

Western diplomats believe an internal Pakistani plot is more likely. Zia, who seized power in

1977, aroused strong passions among his countrymen, from fervent support to bitter hatred.

Zia's military transport plane crashed Wednesday shortly after takeoff from Bahawalpur in the Punjab plains, where he had been visiting troops. Local people reported seeing the explosion on board.

Eight U.S. experts have been called in to help an air force investigation team but Pakistani officials expect no conclusions about what caused the crash for several days.

The Pakistanis, while not ruling out an accident despite the reliable reputation of the sturdy C-130, suspect the plane was blown up by a bomb or shot down by a missile.

Planting a bomb on board would require breaching the tight security surrounding the military president's plane.



Seoul policemen dodge flames during riots by massive wave of violence in the run-up to the students demanding reunification of the Korean Peninsula. The South Korean capital witnessed a

Korean discussions stalemate over peace, Olympic games

PANMUNJOM, Korea (AP) — Delegates from North Korea and South Korea deadlocked during a second round of talks Saturday on peace measures and co-hosting the summer Olympics, and each side blamed the other for lack of progress.

Neither North nor South budged from its positions during Saturday's session at the truce site of Panmunjom, in the demilitarized zone that separates the nations. The communist

North insisted on being a co-host at the Olympics. The capitalist South said it was impossible.

They did, however, agree to meet again Monday.

"South Korea was insincere throughout the meeting," the north's chief delegate, Chom Kum Chol, told a news conference.

The chief South Korean delegate, Park Joon-Kyu, said any hope of progress depended on the North being more flexible.

Park called on the North to give up its demand to be a co-host at the Olympics and simply agree to participate in the games.

"I still think that chance of North Korea participating in the Seoul games is one in a

thousand," Park told reporters.

The two five-member teams met in the South Korean pavilion. On Friday, they met in the North Korean building. They shook hands and smiled at the start of the talks, but the mood was guarded.

The two Koreas, technically still at war, have hundreds of thousands of troops poised along the 240-kilometer border.

The main purpose of the talks was to arrange a full-scale North-South parliamentary session, but the two sides disagreed on what that session should involve.

Polish government rejects striking workers' demands

WARSAW (R) — The Polish government has dismissed as unrealistic demands by thousands of workers striking for recognition of the banned Solidarity Trade Union and said their calls for better pay could spell economic ruin.

The government said in a statement Friday that accepting all the workers' financial demands and "destabilising and anarchic activities" would disrupt its efforts to put the economy on a healthy footing.

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa increased the stakes, saying workers at the Lenin shipyard in the Baltic port of Gdansk, the union's birthplace, would strike if the movement is not recognised by Monday.

Strikers say more than 13,000

coal miners, dockers and transport workers have joined a wave of stoppages that began Tuesday when 3,000 pit workers declared an occupation strike in the southern Manifest Lipcow mine.

The official PAP news agency said the strikes were costing Poland about \$600,000 a day and could damage its chances of persuading Western creditors to relieve some of the burden of its \$38-billion foreign debt.

The director of Szczecin port issued a statement saying that losses due to the strike would force him to suspend operations at the entire port Saturday if dockers did not start work.

The government said: "The instigators and organisers of the illegal strikes, in which as a rule

only part of the personnel takes part, often head their demands with the question of reviving the former 'Solidarity.' It is an unrealistic demand."

"... There are economic demands, the scope of which drastically exceeds the possibilities of the economy and threaten it with ruin," the Council of Ministers said in the statement issued by PAP.

Walesa said workers vowed support for the labour unrest at a rally in the Lenin shipyard where he works as an electrician.

The yard was the focus of a wave of unrest which hit Poland in 1980 and gave birth to Solidarity, banned after martial law was declared by the communist authorities in December 1981.

7 British soldiers killed in Ireland

OMAGH, Northern Ireland (R) — Guerrillas killed seven British soldiers and injured 29 Saturday in the bloodiest attack on British forces in Northern Ireland for nearly a decade, police said.

A police spokesman said the soldiers died just after midnight when a huge landmine wrecked an unmarked bus carrying them back to their barracks in Omagh after leave in England.

"The bus was a mess of mangled wreckage. It was a miracle anyone got out alive," said Paddy Bogan, president of Northern Ireland's Alliance Party, who lives near the scene of the blast.

"Mutilated bodies were strewn over a radius of 50 to 100 metres. I saw seven bodies. The faces of the injured were terribly cut and injured," he said.

Rescue work was hindered by fears that another booby trap bomb may have been left in the area — A play frequently used by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) in their 20-year-old campaign to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

The blast raised serious security questions for British forces. The soldiers had been carried in an unmarked bus late at night to reduce any danger of identifica-

tion as a target. The British army suffered its worst attack in 1979 when landmines ripped apart an army vehicle at Warren Point, near the border with the Irish Republic, killing 18 men.

It seemed likely Saturday's Omagh bomb, like the Warren Point booby-trap, was detonated by remote control as the bus passed.

Police and army sealed off the area and searched by floodlight for clues to the attackers. Local people helped ferry the injured to hospital.

In June, six soldiers returning from a charity event were killed when a bomb exploded under their minibus.

But the IRA had appeared in recent months to be refocusing its campaign with six attacks on British army targets in continental Europe and one in Britain. Three soldiers were killed May 1 in the Netherlands, one died in a bomb blast at a London barracks and a fifth was shot dead in his car in Belgium.

A government spokesman said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was "deeply shocked and distressed" by the attack.

'Jack the Ripper' still haunts Britain

LONDON (AP) — Police unveiled long-lost evidence from the case of Jack the ripper, saying it helped fill in the historical jigsaw surrounding the murderer who terrorised the city a century ago.

But recovered police photographs and documents, including a chilling letter allegedly from the ripper, cast no new light on the identity of one of history's most infamous criminals, they said.

His five victims, all prostitutes, fell prey to the murderer's knife in London's seamy East End during a nine-week period beginning Aug. 31, 1888. Most were disemboweled and mutilated.

"At least we now have a more complete file. Obviously these things were missing from the re-

cord. They're now back in," said Metropolitan Police Deputy Commissioner John Dellow, surrounded by the evidence in plastic packets. "We can't say at this stage where or how they became detached or where they've been since, but they are of some interest to us."

The yellowed ripper letter, written in neat script and red ink, laughs at the police for their failure to catch him.

"I keep hearing the police have caught me but they won't fix me just yet. I have laughed when they look so clever and talk about being on the right track," it starts. "I am down on whores and I shan't quit ripping them till I do get buckled."

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

20 killed in Sri Lanka violence

COLOMBO (AP) — At least 20 people were killed within 24 hours in fighting by Tamil separatists and related violence, official reports said Friday. The victims included 11 Tamil rebels fighting for an independent homeland in the north and east provinces of this island nation, the reports said. Tamils, who compose about 18 per cent of the country's 16 million people, claim they are discriminated against by the majority Sinhalese who control the government. Two Indian peace-keeping officers, a Sri Lankan soldier and six civilians also were killed, the reports said.

Hungary president calls for freedom

BUDAPEST (AP) — Hungary's new non-party president Bruno F. Straub Friday called for a system of political and legal guarantees ensuring freedom of expression and action that is not specifically banned by law. Straub, who addressed a meeting in Szekesfehervar in western Hungary, spoke on the eve of 950th anniversary of the death of Saint Stephen, Hungary's first king. "Hungarians, if they want to continue in existence, must change in keeping with the world that is their environment and adapt their way of thinking accordingly," he said. Past mistakes that stifled progress "were not the cause but the consequence of a deeper-seated crisis, namely the misinterpretation of the democracy concept of Socialism," said Straub according to the state news agency MTI.

Mine explodes in S. African base

CAPE TOWN (AP) — A small limpet mine exploded Friday in a well inside the oldest building in South Africa, which serves as a military base. Police said the mine caused minimal damage, but it was significant that a saboteur could have gotten into the heavily-defended castle, which serves as a headquarters building for the defence force. The star-shaped castle overlooking Cape Town, is a national monument which appears on the emblem of the defence force. Dutch settlers began building it in 1666, but it has never featured in a battle.

Afghan rebels claim blast kills 500

ISLAMABAD (R) — A huge blast at a Soviet munitions dump in Afghanistan killed at least 500 people and injured about 250, a Western diplomat and guerrilla sources said Friday. The diplomat cited reports from Kabul saying the death toll in the blast at Kilguy north of the Afghan capital could be as high as 800. Guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government say a rocket attack set off the explosion at the dump, which contained enough arms and ammunition to supply Kabul forces for two years. The official Soviet and Afghan media, which have recently been swift to report guerrilla attacks in Afghanistan, have not mentioned the Kilguy blast.

UNITA claims 42 soldiers killed

LISBON (AP) — UNITA guerrillas, backed by the United States and South Africa, claimed Friday to have killed 42 Angolan government troops this week. The claimed killings came in the face of a cease-fire declared last week by Angola, Cuba and South Africa in the southern African nation's 13-year civil war. The Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) is not a party to the agreement. A UNITA statement issued in Portugal said its guerrillas killed eight Angolan soldiers in central Huila Province Aug. 14, another 19 in southern Huila Province Aug. 16 and 15 in northern Kuanza North province the same day. There was no independent confirmation of the report.

Soviet pensioner in poverty

MOSCOW (R) — More than a third of Soviet pensioners have to live on less than 60 roubles (\$95) a month — less than a third of the official average wage, Izvestia said Friday. In a rare reference to poverty in the Soviet Union, a front-page article in the government newspaper said many of the country's 58.1 million old people, around a fifth of the population, "receive miserable pensions." Around a third of former office and factory workers get less than 60 roubles a month, and another third between 60 and 100 roubles (\$160), it said. The overwhelming majority of state farm workers fall into the lowest category.

COLUMN

Pigeons in training for Olympics

SEOUL (AP) — Pigeons don't like to fly in rain. Or when they're in love. In fact, pigeons may be the most cranky stars training for the 1988 summer Olympics. Hundreds of pigeons are to be released in the opening ceremonies of the Sept. 17-Oct. 2 games to symbolize world peace and all that is noble in the Olympic movement. The moment is one of the most moving and memorable in Olympic ceremonies. As the Olympic flame is lit, 2,400 white pigeons are to soar upward across the Olympic stadium, swoop out over 100,000 people lining the nearby river banks, and with the Olympic anthem still playing, disappear into the distant sky to return home. At least that's the plan. Hwang Yong-U, the Olympic trainer called "father of the pigeons," smiles, and tries not to think about what happens if the fickle pigeons get tired, disoriented or roost in the rafters instead of leaving the stadium.

Stones, Dylan head best singles list

NEW YORK (AP) — Rolling Stone magazine, long the definitive word on rock 'n' roll, has chosen the 100 best singles of the past quarter-century. ("I can't Get No) Satisfaction" by the Rolling Stones topped the list, followed by Bob Dylan's "Like a Rolling Stone." The Beatles were third with "I Wanna Hold Your Hand" and its flip side, "I Saw Her Standing There." The Rolling Stones hit the list three more times: at number 27 with "Honky Tonk Women"; at number 68 with "Jumpin' Jack Flash"; and at number 74 with "Brown Sugar."

British royals end Majorcan holiday

PALMA DE MAJORCA, Spain (AP) — The Prince and Princess of Wales, Charles and Diana, and their sons William and Harry left this Mediterranean island Thursday after a weeklong vacation with the Spanish royal family, an airport official said. The official, who asked not to be identified, said the heir to the British throne and his family left the island aboard a royal air force jet shortly before 2 p.m. (1200 GMT). Charles and Diana, who arrived Aug. 11, spent much of their holiday sunning and cruising aboard the royal yacht, Fortuna, while William, 6, and Harry, 4, played at Marivent Palace, the summer residence of King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia.

\$48,000 doll

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — An antiques dealer says he intends to keep the 6-metre doll he purchased for \$48,000, a record high price in the United States. Richard Wright of Pennsylvania bought the ceramic German doll, with blue-gray eyes, at an auction here. The previous U.S. record for a doll was \$45,000 paid for a 19th century French doll sold at a Los Angeles auction two years ago. Wright's boy doll, which sports a top hat, is known as a Kammer and Reinhardt model 106. It was made about 1910 from bisque ceramic. "I bought him because I've been collecting the Kammer and Reinhardt series for 25 years," said the 41-year-old Wright.

Hefner to sign prenuptial pact

CHICAGO (AP) — Playboy founder Hugh Hefner, 62, intends to have a signed prenuptial agreement before he weds 25-year-old Kimberly Conrad, the magazine's playmate of the month for January. The two announced their engagement in July and are expected to wed next year. Hefner has been single since his first marriage ended in divorce in 1952. Robyn Radomski, spokeswoman for Playboy Enterprises Incorporated, wouldn't divulge details of the prenuptial agreement. "But she said 'Kimberly won't get control (of the company) in the event of a divorce if anything happens to Hef.'"

Snake interrupts radio broadcast

KAMPALA (AP) — Officials at the ministry of information said Friday that the late evening news on state-owned Radio Uganda was cut short when a 1.5-metre snake slithered into the broadcast booth. Veteran newscaster Francis Binaale was winding up the 10 p.m. news bulletin Wednesday when he paused four minutes before the end of the 15-minute broadcast. "Oh my God... good night," he uttered, the newscaster told listeners just before the radio station went off with air without explanation.

Agreements to halt worldwide dumping

By Jacquelyn Craw and Robert Walgate

Recent cases of the dumping of toxic wastes from industrialised countries in Nigeria and the Caribbean are highlighted in the articles in this Panos features package. Here, we focus on the state of international law — and describe several more examples of dumping.

LONDON — The recent dumping of U.S. and European toxic waste in Nigeria has highlighted an appalling gap in legislation: There is no binding international law governing the transfrontier shipment and dumping of toxic wastes in developing countries.

Existing international law only bans the disposal of toxic waste at sea under the 1972 London Dumping Convention. However, provisions in U.S. law and a sofar ineffective European Communities' (EC) Directive do provide some regulation based on the principle of "prior informed consent."

The 1986 EC Directive on the Transfrontier Shipment of Toxic Waste — which in the intricacies of EC law must be enacted by individual European governments before it has any effect — requires exporting countries to send a "consignment note" to the receiving country, warning it of any shipment of hazardous waste.

The note must contain details of the source and composition of the waste, route, insurance against third parties, measures for safe transport and compliance with any conditions required by EC member states, and on the existence of a contractual agreement with the consignee of the waste in the receiving country.

The waste cannot be shipped until the country of destination formally accepts it and the EC member states must know that the receiving country has the technical capacity to handle it.

The effective date for implementation of the Directive was Jan. 1, 1987, yet to date only three EC member states, Belgium, Denmark and Greece, have passed national legislation enacting it.

Italy has not drafted appropriate legislation. Nor has Spain. But other members plan to implement the Directive by

the end of 1988.

The European Commission, which drafts legislation for approval by member governments, admits that the existing Directive could be strengthened. The Commission may suggest providing "technical assistance" to developing countries to help them dispose of toxic waste exported from member states, if they request it, but by no means all Commission suggestions become European law.

The Commission also believes that the African governments themselves can play an important role by passing legislation to curb the dumping of toxic waste in their own countries.

In fact the members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) have already proposed strict legislative measures. They have agreed to make it a criminal offence in national law to assist in the dumping of toxic waste, and have also proposed the setting up of a monitoring group "Dumpwatch."

In the United States, national law provides for a similar system of prior notification by waste exporters. The waste cannot be moved until the recipient country gives written consent to the disposal of the waste on its territory.

However, gaps exist in the U.S. legislation. Its definition of "hazardous wastes" excludes incinerator ash, which can be extremely toxic. Meanwhile, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), based in Nairobi, is actively working on an internationally binding convention to control the transportation and disposal of toxic wastes.

According to UNEP the convention is "tentatively" due to be signed in Basel, Switzerland, in March 1989.

The basic provision of the convention will be to force ex-

porters to notify importers in advance of shipments of toxic wastes. An agreed list of toxic wastes will be drawn up.

Jamaica warned of permanent environmental damage to developing countries that received hazardous waste, since

near the capital, Conakry. Later analysis showed high levels of toxic chemicals, including dioxins and heavy metals.



Toxic waste drums stored in Nigeria before they were removed.

But, at a meeting held this June in Caracas, Venezuela, to discuss draft proposals for the convention, there was considerable disagreement between the developing country delegates and the industrialised country delegates about the definition of "toxic wastes," the controls on transit countries, and notification procedures to waste-receiver countries.

According to developing country delegates, the convention should ban waste exports unless there is sufficient proof of the existence of adequate capacity to handle and monitor the waste in the receiver country. They also believe the industrialised countries should fund a proposed monitoring and technical assistance agency for receiver countries.

In Caracas, the Egyptian delegation argued that the responsibility for toxic waste should always remain with the country that produced it.

their knowledge of the wastes and their expertise in handling them are insufficient.

Senegal, representing Africa, also requested aid in waste handling techniques, and pointed out that developing countries themselves produced waste — and often disposed of it improperly.

Illicit dumping

The Caracas meeting also heard from the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) that it has received reports on illicit toxic waste dumping in 11 countries from Finland to Venezuela, including:

* Guinea, where in early 1988 a Norwegian firm's subsidiary based in the United States had exported 15,000 tonnes of fly-ash from city waste incinerators in Philadelphia in the U.S. to Guinea. The fly-ash was imported as "construction materials" by another Norwegian firm and dumped on an island

* Thailand, which reported several instances of illegal imports of toxic chemicals from Singapore.

* Venezuela, where a private Italian company had dumped 11,000 leaking barrels of "extremely toxic and corrosive" chemical waste, without informing the Venezuelan Government. The drums were returned to Italy in October last year. While in Venezuela the drums were in constant danger of explosion.

According to a UNEP official at the end of last month "at least two" more meetings will be needed before agreement on the proposed new international convention might emerge.

For the time being, exporters and importers of waste are expected to follow the unenforceable "Cairo guidelines" approved by UNEP in 1987 as a basis of the planned convention — PANOS features.